Anna Maria Owen

XIII

957. e. 37.

57. a. 37

A New Treatise OF Canary Birds.

Harriena de Chantelouse

BRITISH MUSEUM

A

New TREATISE OF Canary-Birds.

CONTAINING

The manner of Breeding and Coupling them, that they may have Beautiful Young Ones.

WITH

Curious Remarks relating to the Signs and Cauſes of their Diſtempers, and the Method of Curing them.

Written in *French* by Mr. *Hervieux*, and Tranſlated into *Engliſh*.

LONDON:
Printed for *Bernard Lintot*, at the *Croſs-Keys* between the *Temple-Gates*: And *Benjamin Barker*, and *Charles King* in *Weſtminſter-Hall*, 1718.

Jos: Banks

B L

THE

Authors Preface:

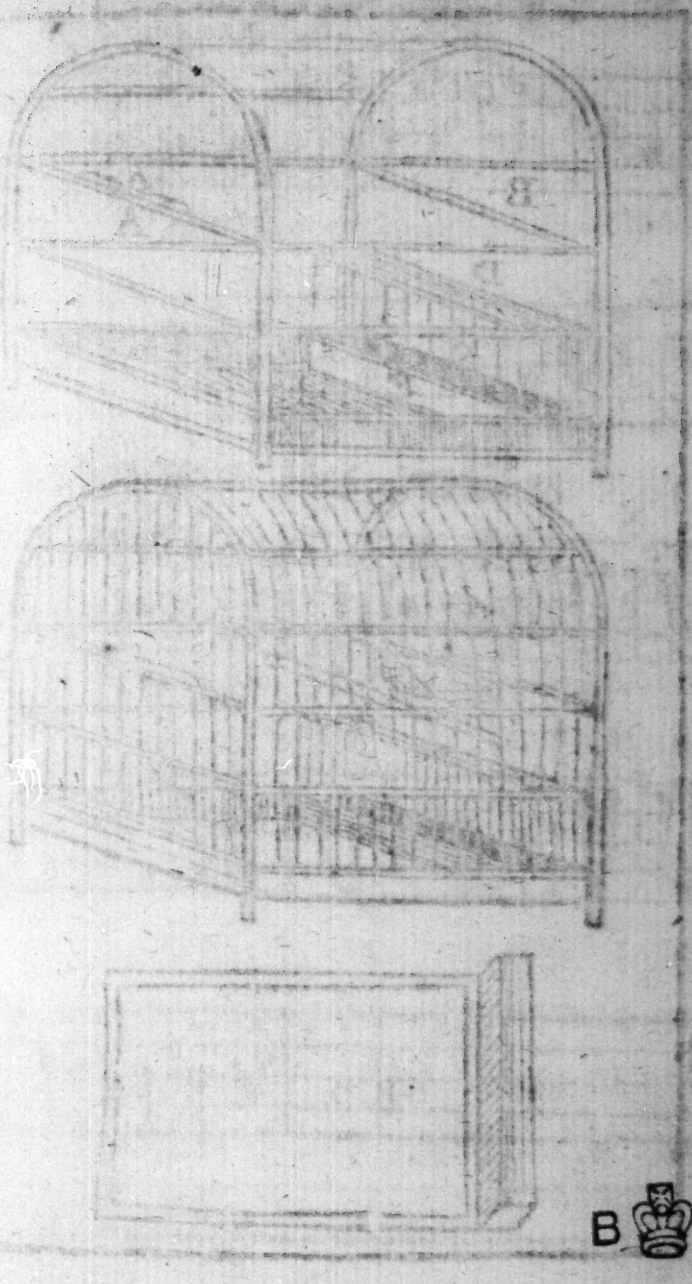
Shewing how Neceſſary the Contents of this Treatiſe are, for ſuch as deſire to enjoy the Innocent Recreation of *Canary-Birds.*

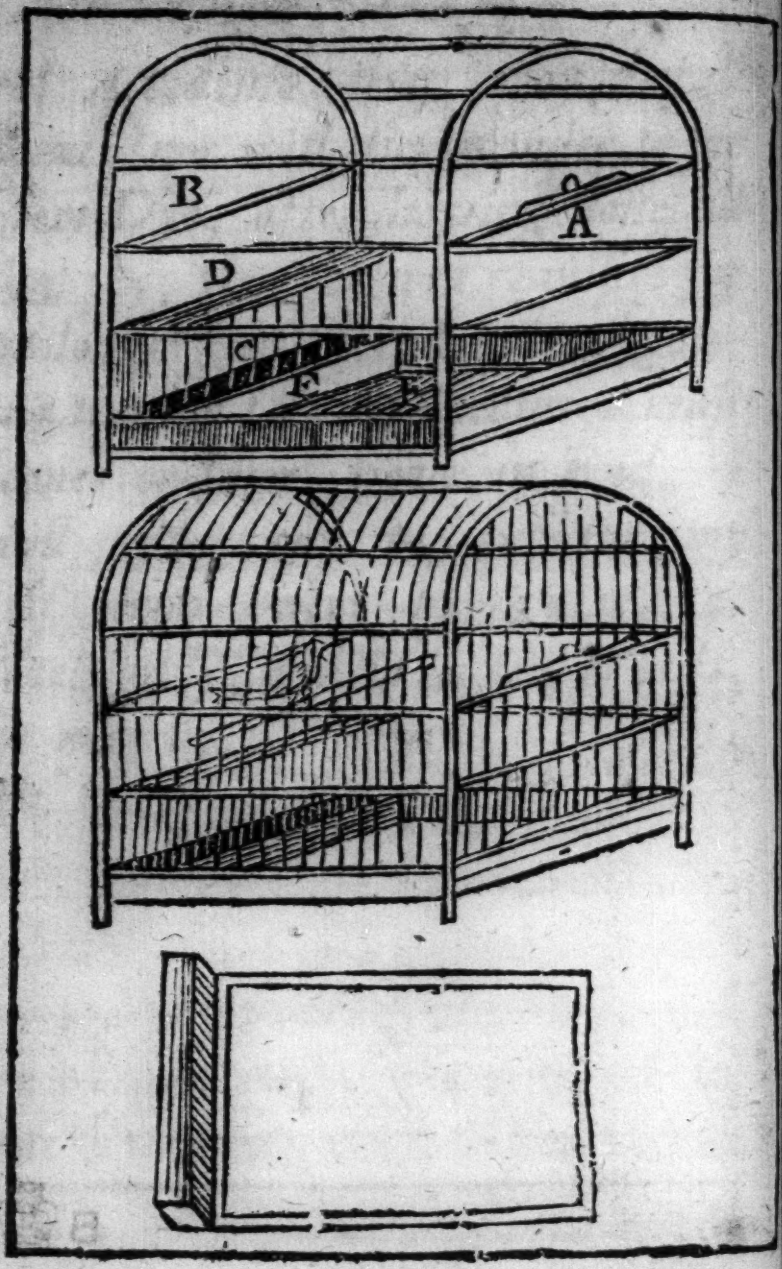
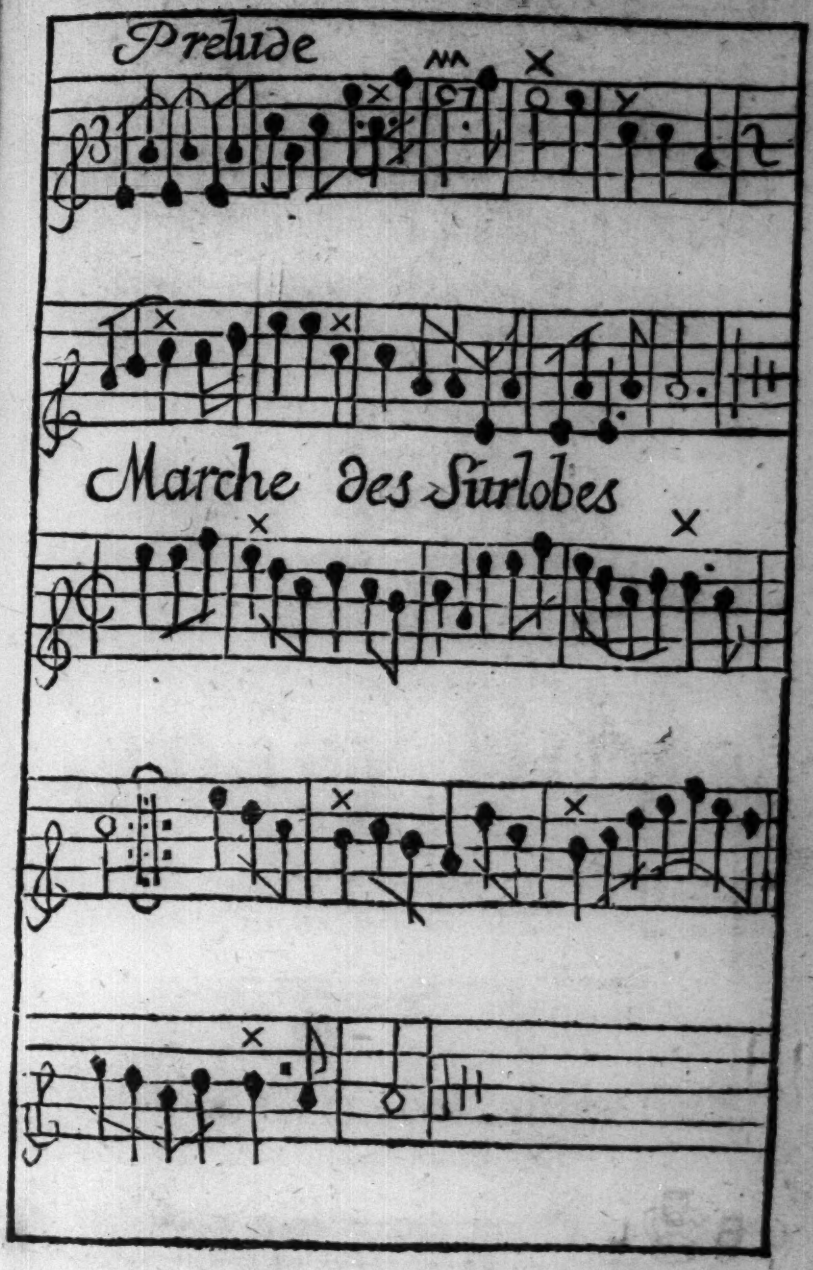
IT *is requiſite, that thoſe who are inclin'd to Enjoy the Diverſion of* Canary Birds, *ſhould be acquainted with their Inclination which differ very much among themſelves; what Food is proper for them, and their Di-*

ſtempers. By knowing their Inclinations, many Accidents that befall them, are prevented; eſpecially when it is deſign'd to make them Sit. By knowing what proper Food to give them, according to the ſeveral Seaſons, the Birds are always kept in perfect Health; and laſtly, by underſtanding their Diſtempers, they are often reſcu'd from ſpeedy and inevitable Death. This is what I propoſe in the preſent Treatiſe of Canary-Birds. *I am not ignorant, that a Treatiſe has been writ, of all Birds in general; but the Author of it has allow'd but one Chapter for the* Canary-Birds; *leaving it perhaps to ſome other, who is better acquainted to ſay more of them. I ſhall therefore add, at leaſt* 24 *Chapters, to that which has been already*

already writ on this Subject. For observing the better Method, I cannot forbear repeating something that has been said already, but it would be needless for me to set Pen to Paper, if I had not something New *to add to what has been made publick; and did not intend to Explain and Enlarge what has been written concerning the* Canary-Birds. *This Treatise will therefore be an Improvement of all that has been said on this Subject, and an Exposition of what has not been hitherto made very plain, being my self perfectly knowing in what I am going to Write about the* Canary-Birds. *I am satisfy'd others will take great Satisfaction in the Diversion these lovely Little Birds afford, they will not be surpriz'd at the several*

ral Accidents that may befall them; nor will they wonder to ſee them Dye, after having done all that they thought was requiſite for prolonging of their Lives, knowing that all Living Creatures muſt ſooner or later, have an End. I will endeavour to explain my ſelf upon every particular, as intelligibly, and in as few Words, as may be.


B
L


B
A
D
C
E
F

Prelude
Marche des Surlobes

B L

A New Treatiſe OF Canary Birds.

CHAP. I.

Of the Original of the Canary Bird.

I Will not here ſpend my Time in repeating what ſeveral ancient Poets have ſaid concerning the Original of the *Canary* Bird; becauſe that Account is Fabulous. It ſhall ſuffice to ſay, that the firſt we ever ſaw in theſe parts, were brought us from the *Canary* Iſlands, ſub-

ject to the Crown of *Spain*, and from thence they had the Name they are known by; tho' they are now alſo brought to us from *Inſpruch*, the Capital of the County of *Tirol* in *Germany*, and that by *Germans* twice a Year; that is, in the Spring, and in Autumn, of which more ſhall be ſaid hereafter. For my own part, I now call them *French*, or *Engliſh*, and not *Canary* Birds, becauſe having been here ſo many Deſcents they muſt be look'd upon as Naturaliz'd. I ſhall add no more concerning their Original, leaving that to ſome other; who when he has much ſearch'd in vain after theſe little Creatures, will find no Man to juſtify what he may advance concerning them.

CHAP. II.

The Names given to Canary-*Birds, according to their ſeveral Colours.*

I Think it will be proper in the next place, to ſet down the Names commonly given to *Canary*-Birds, according to their ſeveral Colours; to the end that every

every one may know, in what Claſs, or rather of what degree of Beauty the Birds are he has, or deſigns to Buy; and therefore I ſhall name them in their Order, beginning with the moſt Common Sorts, and concluding with the moſt Beautiful.

Common Grey *Canary*-Birds.

Grey *Canary*-Birds, rough footed and the Feet white, call'd of the Copple-crown breed.

Grey *Canary*-Birds with white Tails, of the Copple-crown breed.

Common Aſh-colour *Canary*-Birds.

Aſh-colour *Canary*-Birds with red Eyes.

Aſh-colour *Canary*-Birds, with a caſt of Gold colour.

Rough-footed Aſh-colour *Canary*-Birds, of the Copple-crown breed.

Aſh-colour *Canary*-Birds, with white Tails, of the Copple-crown breed.

Common Lemon-colour *Canary*-Birds.

Rough-footed Lemon-colour *Canary*-Birds, of the Copple-crown breed.

Lemon-colour *Canary*-Birds with white Tails, of the Copple-crown breed.

Common Mottle *Canary*-Birds.

Mottle *Canary*-Birds with red Eyes.

Mottle *Canary*-Birds with white Tails, of the Copple-crown breed.

Common Buff-colour *Canary*-Birds.

Buff-colour *Canary*-Birds with red Eyes.

Buff-colour *Canary*-Birds, with a caſt of Gold-colour.

Buff-colour *Canary*-Birds, rough footed, of the Copple-crown breed.

Buff-colour *Canary*-Birds, with white Tails, of the Copple-crown breed.

White *Canary*-Birds with red Eyes.

Common Copple-Crown *Canary*-Birds.

Copple-crown *Canary*-Birds with red Eyes.

Canary-Birds with Aſh-colour Copple-crowns.

Canary-Birds with Aſh-colour Copple-crowns and red Eyes.

Canary-Birds with Black Copple-crowns.

Canary-Birds with Black and Lemon-colour Copple-crowns and red Eyes.

Canary-Birds with regular Black and Lemon-colour Copple-crowns.

Theſe are the common Names given to *Canary*-Birds, they being generally call'd and diſtinguiſh'd by their Colours.

It remains that I mention the Names of thoſe which are call'd Mongrel *Canary*-Birds; which are the Breed of Cock or Hen *Canary*-Birds, which have been coupled with Birds of a different Kind, as Yellow-Hammers, Chaffinches, Linnets, Goldfinches, or the like; then thoſe that come of them take their Names from the ſort of Bird they were coupled with; as

for

for example, when a Cock *Canary*-Bird is coupled with a Hen-Chaffinch, the Young Ones which come of them are call'd Mongrel *Canary*-Birds of a Chaffinch, and ſo the others.

Mongrel *Canary*-Birds of a Linnett.

Mongrel *Canary*-Birds of a Yellow-Hammer.

Mongrel *Canary* Birds of a Gold-finch, and ſo of others.

CHAP. III.

Of the Cages and Breeding Places fit for Canary-Birds.

THERE are abundance of different Sorts of Breeding-Places continually made, according to every Mans Fancy and Ability. Thoſe who make them of Deal have them very Cheap; but it is certain, that when the Birds have Hatch'd in them one Year at fartheſt, they are fit for nothing but to Burn, as well on account of the many ſmall Inſects or Worms they breed, as becauſe of the ſlightneſs of that Wood, which cannot be long expos'd to the Air, but it will warp and

yield every way: Thoſe which are made of Beech are ſomewhat better, that Wood being cloſer and more ſolid than Deal; and tho' it is of no better Colour it is Dearer. But thoſe who would have neat and more laſting Huts or Breeding-places, muſt make them of Wainſcott, which is a ſtronger ſort of Wood, and of an agreeable Colour; and the older it is, the harder and more beautiful it grows.

Laſtly, Thoſe who will have theſe Huts in Perfection, muſt cauſe them to be made of Walnut-Tree, a Beautiful and Serviceable ſort of Wood; and the Bottoms and Drawers muſt be all of a piece, that they may not give way by Length of Time. They may depend upon it, that the longer they keep them, the handſomer they will look; and that if they Live never ſo long they will not ſee the end of them. For my own part, my Method is to have theſe Huts quite open; that is, all the four Sides of them to be of Braſs Wire, and that for two principal Reaſons.

1. Howſoever theſe Huts are plac'd in a Room, the Birds are always in Sight, which way ſoever a Man looks at them, which is very agreeable and pleaſing to the Eye.

2. Becauſe thoſe Birds, who are ſo expos'd to view, become ſo Tame by ſeeing People

People on every ſide, and at all times, that nothing ſcares them, and conſequently they are not apt to beat themſelves by fluttering, when they are Dreſs'd, as often *Canary*-Birds do that are kept in Dark Cages. I will not here ſpeak of thoſe coſtly and rich Huts that may be made, as ſome Perſons in this City have them, the Bottoms and two Sides whereof are Looking-Glaſs, and the Borders and Corners Painted with ſeveral ſorts of Birds in Miniature, to the end that the *Canary*-Birds kept in thoſe Fine Huts, may have their Young, if poſſible, like thoſe there Painted. I leave it to others to make Reflections on thoſe extravagant Expences, which might ſerve to Relieve many Families, whom the Difficulties of theſe Times have reduc'd to extream Want; I ſhall only ſay that it were practicable to imitate thoſe Fine Huts, without being at the ſame Expence, by placing large plain Glaſſes, inſtead of thoſe Looking Glaſſes; I have ſpoken of, and caus'd ſome Birds of ſeveral Colours to be Painted on thoſe ſame Glaſſes, to cauſe an Impreſſion on thoſe *Canary*-Birds, that they may breed ſuch Young as are there Painted.

As for Cages, I will add a word concerning them by the way: The round are very prejudicial to the Birds, becauſe they have not room enough to walk, and ſo they are

always har'd. The long Cages are beſt, not quite ſo broad, but lofty. A Bird in ſuch a Cage is not har'd, having room to fly in the Height, and to walk in the Length, and therefore grows ſtronger and healthier than others; and being eaſy in his Confinement is never ſubject to Melancholy, which proves a fatal Diſtemper to them. I have contriv'd a ſort of Cage, which pleaſes me very well, and has been approv'd of by Judicious People; it is long and proportionably broad, and of a good Height; there are no Troughs on the ſides; ſo that the Bird is plainly to be ſeen at any diſtance from the Cage; whereas the two Troughs commonly plac'd on the ſides of common Cages, do ſo cover the Bird, that when he is eating, or ſtands on the Perch next to thoſe Troughs, he is not ſeen, eſpecially when we are at a diſtance from the Cage, or ſitting.

The two Leaden Pots in this new ſort of Cage, are plac'd underneath, fix'd into the Drawer at the end of the Cage; ſo that in taking out of the Board, which is done at the back part of the Cage, you at the ſame time take out the two Troughs in which the Birds Meat is. The Troughs are wir'd before, at proper diſtances, within the Cage, to the end that the Bird only putting in his Head,

may

may not throw out the Seeds; which is not ſo in the other Cages.

The advantage of theſe new Cages is, in the firſt Place, the Pleaſure of ſeeing your whole Bird at any Diſtance, there being nothing to obſcure him which way ſoever he moves in the Cage.

Beſides, the Bird that does not continually ſee his Meat, when he is upon his Perches, does not eat ſo often, and therefore does not grow ſo Fat, but more beautiful, and ſings oftner, and is not ſo apt to gorge himſelf, which they are ſubject to, by too much eating, and ſcarce ever eſcape alive, when it happens.

This ſort of Cage is alſo very advantageous to them when they are Sick, or their Feet are hurt, for then they can come at their Meat as they ſtand down, without getting upon their Perches, which is not ſo in the other Cages, where they are often found Dead under their Troughs, for want of Strength to get upon their Perches to feed. There are many more Conveniences belong to theſe Cages, which would take me up too much time to enumerate.

For the better conceiving of this ſort of Cage, I have thought fit to give a Draught of it.

A is the Front of the Cage, B the Back Part of it, C the Trough, D the Top of

the Trough, E a little Board which is the Front of the Trough, made faſt to the lower edge of the Cage, to keep the Trough ſteady, and ſupport the Wires made faſt to the top of the Trough, F the Board to draw out of the Cage, with the Troughs on it.

I will not ſpend time in mentioning the ſeveral ways of adorning Cages, Voleries and Huts, daily invented by ſeveral curious Perſons for their *Canary*-Birds. Some make the Frames of their Cages or Huts of Box, and inſtead of Braſs uſe Silver or Gold Wire; others adorn them with falſe Diamonds; ſome embelliſh them with Amber; others inlay them with Ivory, all according to an exact Symmetry. In ſhort, every nice Perſon does it according to his Purſe or his Fancy.

CHAP.

CHAP. IV.

The proper Seaſon for coupling of Canary-*Birds, when it is deſign'd to have a Breed, and of the moſt advantageous Poſition.*

AS to the time of coupling them, in order that they ſhould multiply, that cannot be exactly determin'd; but the Seaſon is to be obſerv'd, which ſome Years is ſooner or later than others. When you perceive, that the Sun begins to grow warm and the nipping Froſts are over, which is commonly about the latter end of *March*, you may prepare to couple your *Canary*-Birds after this manner.

You muſt take a new Cage, or at leaſt one that is very clean, that there may be no Worms in it; into which put a Cock *Canary*-Bird with the Hen you have deſign'd for him. They grow acquainted and couple ſooner in a little Cage than in a great Hut, as being cloſer confin'd and nearer

nearer one another. Special Care muſt be taken, not to do, as happens every Year to many, who put two Cocks or two Hens together, for not having parted the Males from the Females in due time; thus they are often confounded when the coupling time comes; for ſome Hens in the Spring ſing almoſt as loud as the Cocks; and on the contrary, ſome Cocks ſing ſo low, that they are often miſtaken for Hens. When a Man has committed this miſtake it makes him fret, for as it often happens that one of the two Hens, which have been put together lays, it is evident that the Eggs cannot hatch, and then the Fault is laid upon the Cock, which in reality is no other than a Hen. On the other Hand, if you put two Cocks together, for want of knowing them, then are you no leſs concern'd to ſee that the Bird you take for a Hen does not lay; then the pretended Hen is accounted Barren, and ſo the Year paſſes away with this Diſappointment, without diſcovering the Miſtake; and the reaſon why it is certainly look'd upon to be a Hen, is becauſe that Cock which is taken for a Hen, ſings very little or not at all, and that nothing extraordinary; for when you put two Cocks into a Cage, it frequently happens that one of them either through Fear, or otherwiſe, does not ſing. Therefore, when you have kept your Pair

of

of *Canary*-Birds 8 or 10 Days in a little Cage, and you perceive that they are well match'd, as plainly appears, when they do not Fight, as they commonly do the firſt Days they are put together, and that on the contrary they make Love and Bill, then you may let them into the Hut deſign'd for them, which is to be made as deſcrib'd in the 3*d* Chapter, and you muſt there give them all that is requiſite for making of their Neſts, of which I ſhall treat hereafter.

As for the Poſition of the Place, I muſt own they ſit whereſoever they are plac'd, either facing to the Eaſt or Weſt, the North or South, in the Town or Country, within Rooms or without, that is, on Windows that are open all Night; but I deny that the young ones will thrive as well in one Place as in another. If therefore you would have thriving *Canary*-Birds, you muſt place their Huts fronting to the Eaſt, above any other Quarter. There the old ones will be leſs liable to ſeveral Accidents and Diſeaſes which befall them, when they are ill poſited; the new hatch'd Birds thrive more in one Day, when their Poſition is advantageous than they would otherwiſe do in two; for if they are expoſed to the Weſt or South, it burns their Brains, and breeds abundance of Worms, and often cauſes the Hens to ſweat, and ſo they

they ſtifle the young. Sometimes there comes ſuch a cold Wind from the North, even in Summer, as kills the new hatch'd Birds, and ſometimes the old ones. I will not diſcourſe of many other unlucky Accidents that befall them, as either not laying at all the whole Year, or elſe laying only of addle Eggs, ſometimes for being poſited in ſuch manner as does not ſuit with them, or elſe for being in a Place too dark, which makes them Melancholy, and breeds Sores. It would be endleſs to mention all the ill Accidents that befall *Canary*-Birds in their Huts, which commonly proceed from having plac'd them to ſit in an Air, which is not agreeable to their tender Diſpoſition. I believe thoſe who are acquainted with *Canary*-Birds will approve of what I have ſaid to this purpoſe.

CHAP.

CHAP. V.

The certain Method for coupling of Canary-*Birds that the young may be of beautiful Colours.*

THE more *Canary*-Birds have multiply'd in this City, and are consequently grown the more common, the more nice People are grown, as to their Colours; thoſe who ten Years ago were well pleas'd with a Grey *Canary*-Bird of two Piſtoles Price, will not be now ſatisfy'd with the common copple Crowns; the common Aſh and Gold Colour, the Buff and Mottled are now of litle Value among the curious; they will have their *Canary*-Birds as pleaſing to the Eye by their Plumage, as they are to the Ear, for their ſweet warbling. I have therefore here ſet down how *Canary*-Birds are to be coupled to expect the young ones more beautiful than the old. I begin with the moſt common Breeds, and will conclude with the beautifulleſt we have at this Time.

They

They who couple a Grey Cock and a Grey Hen, which are both common, can expect none but a Grey Breed.

The ſame is to be ſaid of the Aſh, Buff, Mottled and Lemon, coupled with Hens of the ſame Colour, which cannot produce any Birds more beautiful than themſelves.

But when the different Kinds are mix'd, it falls out better, for Nature often delights in producing finer and more beautiful Birds than was expected.

It is not always requiſite to have copple Crown *Canary*-Birds in order to make a beautiful Breed; but it is enough that they be of the copple Crown Breed, for thoſe that come from them are often more beautiful than if they came directly from Copple Crowns.

For Inſtance, A white Tail Grey Cock, with a rough footed Grey Hen, may produce, beſides the rough footed Greys with white Tails, which are to to be expected of courſe, ſome with Copple Crowns, often more regular than if they had been bred from Copple Crowns. The ſame may be ſaid of an Aſh, Lemmon, Buff and Mottled Cock, which being of the Copple Crown Breed, and that is known by their being rough footed, or having ſome white Feathers in their Tails, being coupled with Hens of their own kind, Breed beautiful

tiful Birds and often Copple Crown'd.

But thoſe who would have ſtill more beautiful *Canary*-Birds muſt Match them thus.

A Cock with an Aſh Colour Copple Crown, and a Lemmon Hen, with a white Tail, will make a beautiful Breed.

All Copple Crown Cocks, with white Tail Hens, except the Grey with white Tails, produce very fine Birds.

They who join Copple Crown Cocks and Hens, will have all Copple Crown young, tho' ſometimes they happen to be Grey; and that is becauſe either the Dam or the Sire of that pair of Copple Crown *Canary*-Birds was Grey. But to make ſhort, they that would have ſome of that fine Breed call'd the Jonquille with a black Copple Crown, which is at this Time reckoned the moſt beautiful and higheſt valu'd ſort, muſt put together a Jonquille, or Lemmon Colour *Canary*-Bird of the Copple Crown Race, and a Jonquille, or Lemmon Hen.

If you would have more of the yellow and more of the Copple Crown, you muſt on the contrary couple a Cock with a black Copple Crown, and a yellow Hen with a white Tail, which produces the beautiful Jonquille; but that this may ſucceed the better, the yellow Hen with a white Tail, here ſpoken off, muſt be from a Jonquille

Cock

Cock well mark'd, and from a yellow Hen with a white Tail. In a Word, this is all that can be done towards producing Birds of beautiful Colours. The young which come from this laſt Race I have here ſpoken of, are much more troubleſom to rear than all other ſorts, as being of a very tender Conſtitution.

CHAP. VI.

What Things are neceſſary for making the Canary-*Birds Neſts.*

THERE are Seven or Eight ſeveral ſorts of Things commonly given to *Canary*-Birds to make their Neſts, as new or common Deers Down or Wool, Hay, Moſs, Cotton cut ſmall, coarſe Hemp, or Flax, Soft long Hair of Fur, *&c.*

Of all theſe ſeveral things, only one or two ought to be us'd for making of the *Canary*-Birds Neſts, all the reſt being very improper, as I ſhall next obſerve.

For inſtance, Cotton cut ſmall, as well as Flax, is apt to cling to their Claws, whence it often happens, that the ſitting Hen, riſing haſtily from off her Eggs, drags

drags the Neſt after her, and conſequently breaks the Eggs that are in it, and this may be done without perceiving the Cauſe of it; then a Man is apt to look upon it as the Fault of the Cock or the Hen, which are ſuſpected to have done it deſignedly, and yet you ſee they knew nothing of it. New or common Deers Down or Wool is not ſo good for them as is generally imagin'd, for it puts the ſitting Hens into ſuch a Heat, that they often ſweat, and when the young ones are hatch'd, they are ſtifled by it in a few Days. Beſides, that Wool being heated, ſticks ſo cloſe to the Bodies of the new hatch'd Birds, like a Paſte, that they can not void their Excrement, and thus dye, with their Craws full, ſo that the Cauſe of their Death is not perceiv'd. If I were to make uſe of that Down, it ſhould be only of the new, and would only employ it about their firſt Neſt, becauſe it is not yet hot Weather, when they have their firſt Breed, but it is never to be given them at their ſecond, third and fourth laying, to avoid the ill Accidents I have mention'd. They muſt alſo be allow'd no Moſs, or very little; for when they have much, it ſometimes happens that they bury their Eggs, ſo that they lying at the Bottom of the Neſt and the Moſs over them, a Man is apt to believe the Hen

Hen has not laid, when ſhe has ſeveral Eggs.

They muſt therefore have nothing given them but very fine and ſmall Hay, to make the Body of their Neſt; beſides that Hay muſt be gather'd and well dry'd in the Sun ſome time before they have it, that the ſtrength of it being gone, it may not affect their Heads. When the Neſt is almoſt made, there may be given them a little Pinch of Moſs, well dry'd in the Sun, and the ſame Quantity of Deers Wool, which muſt be allow'd only for the firſt Neſt and not for the others, for the Reaſons above mention'd.

There is a ſort of fine furry Hair, which may be had at the Bruſh-makers, and is very proper for theſe Birds. You may take the fineſt and ſhake it very well, to beat out the Duſt, or if you would do better, waſh and then dry it in the Sun, which will take out all the Duſt and the Scent it naturally has, then ſtrew it about the Cage; you will be pleas'd to ſee what a charming Neſt they will make. This Hair alone, without any other thing will ſerve them to make their Neſt, and that which has already ſerv'd in one Neſt, being again waſh'd in boiling Water, will be fit for another Neſt.

There are three ſorts of things given them to make their Neſts in; firſt little

Oſier

Oſier Baskets. 2. Wooden Caſes, or Boxes. 3. the like made of Earthen Ware.

Thoſe who invented the Earthen Pots, ſay they did it, becauſe the Hen *Canary*-Bird, who is at leaſt 24 Days without coming out of her Neſt, does not ſweat in them as ſhe often does in the Baskets; but in my Opinion they have not ſucceeded in that Point; for it is certain, that the Earthen Pot, being naturally damp, muſt have ill effects upon the Sitting Hen, and worſe upon the little new hatch'd Birds.

One of the moſt conſiderable is, that if the Hut happens to be a little expos'd to the Sun, the Earthen Pot will grow ſo hot and retain the Heat ſo long, even after the Sun is gone off it, that it will certainly kill the Hen and ſtifle the young ones.

As for the Wooden Boxes or Caſes, they are convenient, becauſe it is eaſy in them to take out the Neſts and put them in again now and then, to ſhake out the Inſects that lye at the bottom; for in that ſort of Boxes the Neſt is taken out altogether, and may be put in again exactly as it was before, without the Birds perceiving that it has been touch'd; but there is no making uſe of thoſe Boxes that are bor'd through, becauſe in taking out the

Elder

Elder Stick that goes acroſs them, the Neſts are all diſorder'd and the Eggs often broken; which the Hens perceiving, they generally take Pet, and leave their Neſts.

Two other Inconveniences attend the wooden Boxes. 1. The Neſt which is made in a wooden Box having no paſſage for the Air, grows very hot, and often cauſes the Hen to ſweat. 2. The Neſt made in thoſe Boxes is ſo ſmall and cloſe, that when either the Cock or the Hen gets into it they drag it with their Claws and break the Eggs, or overturn the little ones, if there are any in it.

It is needleſs to ſay any more to this effect; but it is beſt, according to ancient Cuſtom, to make uſe of little Wicker Baskets, in which the Neſt is not ſo much ſtiv'd up and holds faſter than in any other thing. Thoſe who make the Baskets bigger than was formerly us'd are in the wrong, for the Birds ſpend more time in filling them, to make their Neſts, and conſequently toil themſelves the more. Beſides, in a great Basket, the Eggs a Hen ſits on are apt to lye at a diſtance from one another, and it often happens that ſeveral of thoſe Egs do not hatch, becauſe they were not well cover'd.

When they are in the Hut great care muſt be taken to give them very fine

River

River Sand, thorough dry, and therefore I would adviſe to ſift it, to the end that when a Hen has a Mind to lay on that Sand, as it often happens, the Egg may not be broken. It alſo happens, that the Cocks and the Hens coming out of the Neſt drag out after them the new hatch'd young ones, as I obſerv'd before, and they falling on a very fine Sand and clear from Stones, are not kill'd, as I have found by my own Experience.

Note, that they muſt have but one Basket given them at a time to make their Neſt; for as has been well obſerv'd, when they have two given them they ſometimes carry into one and ſometimes into the other and ſo they do nothing to the purpoſe; whereas, when they have but one given them, they make their Neſts orderly at once, and think of nothing but hatching their young. Twelve Days after the young are hatch'd, you muſt put in another Basket on the other Side, for they never fail to make their ſecond Neſt, tho' they are at the ſame time breeding their young. For my part I make their Neſt my ſelf, eſpecially the Second, Third and Fourth, and only allow them to make the Firſt. That fatigues them the leſs, eſpecially the Copple Crowns; and if it happens not to pleaſe them, they have leſs trouble to mend it, than they would have

have to make the whole. My *Canary*-Birds like it very well, for they love to have their Work done for them.

CHAP. VII.

The ſeveral ſorts of Food to be given to Canary-Birds, *when they are pair'd, when they have young, and when they are in Cages.*

THAT which commonly diſcourages moſt of thoſe who firſt undertake to breed *Canary-Birds*, is the great Number of them that dye upon their Hands; which commonly happens through over or under-feeding them, without conſidering, that what is proper for them at one time, is often deſtructive at another. When therefore your Birds are well rear'd by the Hen, which you will know, by their feeding alone, you muſt give them for their common Food, Rapeſeed, Millet, Canary-ſeed, and Hempſeed, which are to be thus mix'd, *viz.* half a Pint of Hempſeed, the ſame Quantity of Canary-ſeed, a Pint

a Pint of Millet, mix all with ſix Pints of Rapeſeed, well cleans'd, that there may be no Duſt in it. Put this mixture into a cloſe Deal Box, that no Dirt may get into it: Then fill the Birds Trough with this Grain, enough in Quantity to ſerve them two Days at leaſt, to the end that when they have eaten the white the firſt Day, they may feed on the black the ſecond, which will prevent their growing too Fat, and they will Sing the better, and this mixture of Seeds you ſhall continue as long as they live.

Some give them nothing but Rapeſeed. Thoſe Birds which can accuſtom themſelves to this hard Diet, they ſay, live longer than others, but it occaſions many of them to dye; for I have obſerv'd, that moſt of them grow ſo Lean and Melancholy, eſpecially thoſe that come of the laſt Sitting, which are generally weaker than the others, that the firſt Diſtemper carries them off.

Another Inconveniency of this hard feeding is, that when you put this ſort of *Canary-Birds* into Huts, when it is requiſite to give them other more ſubſtantial Food, eſpecially when they have young ones, they eat ſo much of that new ſort of Food, being before kept Starving, that they Surfeit and Dye in a few days; great care is therefore to be taken what Food

the *Canary-Birds* you Buy have been rear'd with and are actually fed with at that time; becauſe ſeveral curious Perſons, have different ways of feeding them; ſome, as has been ſaid, giving them nothing but Rapeſeed alone, and others allowing them much Millet, Canary-ſeed and Hempſeed, with their Rapeſeed, and then being ignorant of the common Food of thoſe Birds you Buy, you are apt to give them that which is not proper; and that Change of Food making a ſtrange Alteration in their little Bodies, ruins their Conſtitution, and impairs their Health, ſo that they often fall Sick and Dye, without your being able to gueſs at the cauſe.

It is therefore ſafer to have Birds at the firſt Hand, that is, of Townſmen, who have a mind to part with them; for they freely tell you what Food they have made uſe of in rearing the Birds you have bought, and by continuing the ſame Food you are out of Danger of loſing them; whereas thoſe who make it their Buſineſs to Trade in them, not being able to tell you what Food thoſe you Buy have been rear'd with, as not knowing it themſelves, being almoſt ignorant whence they had them, becauſe they gather them from ſeveral Places, and do not take the trouble to enquire after it, as being likely to Sell them in a few days, and therefore during the ſhort time

time they have them in keeping, they ſpoil them themſelves, by giving them three times more Food, than they have occaſion for; and hence it follows that their Birds are carry'd to them Dead three Days after they were Sold, and when the Buyer complains, their Anſwer in ſhort is, *that all Creatures muſt Dye as well as Men.*

When they are pair'd and put into Huts, you muſt ſometimes give them, beſides their ordinary Seeds I have here mention'd, ſome little Dainty, as for inſtance, a bit of Cake or hard Bisket, eſpecially when you find the Hen is ready to Lay. You muſt alſo give them, during the firſt eight Days of their being in the Hut, much Lettice-ſeed, which purges and makes them evacuate the ill Humours they have contracted during the Winter.

We are now come to the moſt intricate and difficult time of managing *Canary-Birds*, which is, when they have young ones. Every Man then uſes them according to his Fancy and therefore many do not prove ſucceſsful. It is thus I uſe them at that time.

The Day before the young ones are to be Hatch'd, which is the 13*th* Day of the Hens ſitting, I change their Sand, putting in freſh, clean all their Perches, fill their Trough with Seed, taking away what was

in it before, I alſo give them freſh Water, after making their Pot very clean, and all this to avoid diſturbing of them during the firſt Days after their Young Ones are hatch'd. I give them alſo half a Simnel, taking off the upper Cruſt, and a little Bisket, both very hard, becauſe if either of them were ſoft, they would eat too much, and then drinking upon it, would certainly be choak'd. As long as that Simnel and Bisket laſt, no other muſt be given them; but that which follows muſt be chang'd twice or thrice a Day, eſpecially in very hot Weather, *viz.*

A Quarter of an hard Egg, cut very ſmall, the White and the Yolk together; a bit of Simnel dipp'd in Water and ſqueez'd in the Hand, all of it laid on a little Saucer, and on another they muſt have of their common Seed, that has been ſteep'd two Hours, ſome Water muſt be thrown on it, and it will be better if the Seed be juſt boil'd up, and afterwards waſh'd in cold Water, which takes off the Strength and Sharpneſs of the Seed. They eat it well, and do not gorge themſelves, nor are the Young Ones in danger of being choak'd, tho' the Old ones give it them never ſo often.

They muſt alſo have ſome Greens given them, but a ſmall quantity; *viz.* Chickweed, Groundſel, and when there is none left

left on the Ground, as in *July* and *Auguſt*, inſtead of them, the Heart of a Cabbage Lettice, a little Endive and a little very ripe Plantain. This muſt be freſh three times a Day; that is, once at 5 or 6 in the Morning, again at Noon, and laſtly at 5 in the Evening. The Old muſt be taken away every time freſh is put in, becauſe it all ſpoils in a few Hours, eſpecially during the great Heats. For Inſtance, the Rapeſeed grows ſour and ſhoots, the wet Simnel grows ſour, the Chickweed, Groundſel and Lettice, wither; and the Old ones giving the Young that decay'd Food, hinders them from thriving, and very often they Dye for want of Care, and of good freſh Food.

I give them beſides, now and then ſome Lettice-ſeed, Pink Seed and Tanſy-ſeed, all mix'd in a Pot, and I particularly obſerve, what the Cock likes beſt of all I give him, and when I have found it, I allow him as much as he will have, for when they have Young Ones, there is no reaſon to deny them what they love beſt, except the Greens, of which I do not allow them their fill; becauſe as long as they have them they eat them rather than any other thing, and feeding their Young with nothing but thoſe Greens, they give them an ill Habit of Body, and they often dye of that Exceſs. I alſo ſometimes

put a bit of freſh Liquorice into their Water, which gives it a reliſh and does not heat them as Sugar does. In ſhort, by this Method, which ſeems to be eaſy enough, I make many envy me, as ſaving more *Canary-Birds* than many do, who pretend to have been ſeveral Years well skill'd in this Art. I know ſome who give their *Canary-Birds* fifty other ſorts of things, and yet they Dye ſooner, and in greater Numbers, than thoſe which are ſerv'd as I have here ſet down; and therefore I will not ſpeak of thoſe ſeveral ſorts of Food, which are more hurtful to them, than proper to preſerve their Health. In the hot Weather you muſt not forget to put into the Hut ſome freſh Water in a little Cup or Veſſel, for the *Canary-Birds* to waſh themſelves, and the ſame muſt be done with the Young Ones, when they come to feed themſelves. Take heed not to give them a Veſſel too deep to waſh in, leſt they be in danger of Drowning. Change that Water every day in very hot Weather, as well as that in their Drinking Glaſs, or Pot.

CHAP.

CHAP. VIII.

Several ſorts of Paſte for Young Canary-Birds, *when they are to be fed by Hand, or with a little Stick.*

SEveral Perſons make divers ſorts of Paſte to feed the Young *Canary*-Birds, when they are to be Fed by Hand, or with a little Stick; but ſome burn their Bowels by making the Compoſition too nouriſhing; and others, on the contrary by giving them a ſort of common and too liquid Suſtenance, weaken their *Canary-Birds* ſo much that there is no ſaving them from Death.

When therefore you deſign to feed your *Canary-Birds* by Hand, you muſt firſt obſerve, whether they are ſtrong enough to be taken from under the Hen; for if you take them away too ſoon, they commonly decline every Day, and notwithſtanding all your Care they fall away and Dye. Neither muſt they be left too long under the Hen; for when they are grown too

big under her, they begin to know their Sire and Dam, grow ſullen, and will not Feed; and though they be cover'd and put into a Dark Place, to make them forget the Cock and Hen, all theſe Precautions often prove uſeleſs, they pine and at laſt they muſt be return'd to the Cock and Hen to ſave them. The *Canary-Birds* you would feed by Hand muſt be well fledg'd. If they are Grey, or Aſh, they may be taken from under the Hen, at 10, or 12 Days old, as being of a ſtronger Breed; if they are Copple Crown'd, they muſt not be taken away till 13 Days old; and laſtly, if they are Lemmon colour, they muſt not be remov'd till 14 Days be paſt. This Rule I preſcribe is not always without Exception, becauſe ſometimes there happen unlucky Accidents, which make it neceſſary not to follow it.

For inſtance, a Hen falls ſick the *5th* or *6th* Day after the Young are hatch'd, in which caſe, there is no doubt but it is ſafer to take away the Young Ones to feed them with a Stick; but this is in caſe you have not another Hen, under which they may be put; which is better than to leave them to that Hen, which communicates her Diſtemper to thoſe new hatch'd Birds, and Starves them for want of ſufficient Food.

It alſo ſometimes happens, that the Hen

Hen feeds her Young ſo ill, that they viſibly pine away, in which Caſe they muſt be ſooner taken away than if they were well fed. Sometimes the Huts are ſo dark, and ſo ill poſited, that the Little Ones do not thrive, tho' the Hen feeds them ſufficiently. I have ſeen *Canary-Birds* a Fortnight old, which no Man would have judg'd to have been hatch'd above a Week; and the Fault was only to be aſcrib'd to the Poſition of the Place, which was dark, cloſe, and where the Sun, which chears their Bodies, never came. In this caſe they may alſo be taken away ſooner than the common Rule preſcribes, in order to feed them by Hand.

It often happens that the Hen forſakes her Young after 7 or 8 Days; then the Cock takes Care to feed them; but whatſoever different things can be given the Hen, to make her Second Neſt, ſhe will then pull the little Feathers off thoſe Young, which kills them in a few days; and this is alſo a ſufficient reaſon not to leave them any longer with the Old ones. There are many other reaſons, too long to be here mention'd, which oblige to take the Little ones from under the Hen, to breed them up by Hand; but I adviſe to leave them under the Cock and Hen as long as I have preſcrib'd, when there is no urgent Occaſion to remove them; be-

cauſe the Food the Cock and Hen give them, ſtrengthens and agrees with them better, than what a Man can prepare for them, be it never ſo good; and when they are taken away ſomewhat ſtronger, they are in a better Condition to withſtand the Change of Diet, which is made when they are bred by Hand.

Here follow two ſorts of Compoſitions that may be given them.

A ſort of Paſte for Canary-Birds, *which may ſerve a Fortnight at leaſt, without being ſpoil'd.*

Take half a Pint of Rapeſeed and bruiſe it very well in a large Mortar, or on a ſmooth Table, running a wooden Rouler over it ſeveral times; ſo that the Seed being well broken, you may cleanſe it very well from the Husks; add to it three little dry Simnels, bruis'd and reduc'd to Pouder, after having taken off the firſt Cruſty part; add to it a Penny Bisket; all this being well mix'd together and reduc'd to Pouder, put it it into a new Wainſcot Box, and ſet it in a Place that is not expos'd to the Sun. Take a ſpoonful, or more of this Pouder, as you have occaſion, and your Birds Food will be made in a Moment, adding to it a little of the Yolk of an Egg and a Drop of Water, to moiſten the whole.

But you muſt not give your *Canary-Birds*

Birds this Pouder above twenty Days at moſt; for I have obſerv'd, that after the ſaid Term, the pounded Rape-ſeed which is in the Compoſition, tho' dry, grows ſour, and when Water is put to it has a Taſte like Muſtard, which cannot but be hurtful to your Young Birds. You are not therefore to follow the Notion of that Perſon, who has writ that this Compoſition would keep a long time, tho' kept in a Deal Box, a ſort of Wood, which by reaſon of its Softneſs, is apt to breed Worms very ſoon, eſpecially when any Pouder I have ſpoken of is in it. After 20 Days at moſt, if you have any of this Compoſition left, you may give it dry to the Old Cocks and Hens, who will eat it heartily, without receiving any Damage by it, and make freſh for thoſe you bring up by Hand.

For my own part I own, I chooſe rather to be at the Trouble of making it freſh every Day, and am, perhaps with good reaſon, of Opinion, that the Young Birds, which have freſh Food made every day thrive better.

I make my Compoſition after this manner.

The three firſt days that I begin to Feed my Young Birds, I take a bit of Simnel, the cruſt whereof is taken off, becauſe it has a ſort of Bitterneſs; I add to it a very

ry

ry little bit of Bisket, all hard, and reduce them both to Pouder; then I put to it half the Yolk of a hard Egg, or more if need be, which I moiſten with a little Water, tempering all well, that there may be no hard Lumps. This Paſte muſt never be too thin; becauſe, if ſo, it does not nouriſh them ſo well, and they are continually craving; beſides, that when it is too wett they are often Looſe, and ſcarce recover it; But when the Paſte is ſomewhat ſtiff, it lyes longer in their Craws, and nouriſhes them better: when the hard Egg is new, the White diſſolves as well as the Yolk, and does not heat them ſo much, as if there were only the Yolk.

When the firſt three Days are paſt, and I perceive my Young Birds gather ſtrength, I add to the aforeſaid Compoſition a ſmall Quantity of Rape Seed boil'd, without bruiſing, they being then able to digeſt that Rape Seed; but the ſaid Rape Seed muſt be waſh'd in cold Water, after having juſt boil'd up; for it nouriſhes the little Birds, without heating them. Now and then I give them a ſweet Almond blanch'd and reduc'd to Pouder, which I mix with their Paſte; and when I perceive the little Birds are ſomewhat heated I put in a Pinch of the Seed of Chickweed, the beſt grain'd and ſmootheſt I can find. This

Com-

Compoſition is to be made twice a day in very hot Weather, becauſe every thing that goes to the making of this Paſte ſoon grows ſour. This is in ſhort what I uſe to bring up little *Canary-Birds* by Hand; you ſee it is done in a Moment. If you make uſe of this laſt Compoſition, you may be aſſur'd your Little Ones will come to good, and if you rear up 40 by Hand, ſcarce one will dye. If it happens that any of your little *Canary-Birds* are Sick, which is not ſtrange in a conſiderable Number; inſtead of fair Water you may make uſe of the Water or Milk of Hemp, which is made after this manner. Take a Handful of Hempſeed, waſh it well in Spring Water, then bruiſe it with a Wooden Peſtel, in another Water, and preſs out the Juice in a white Linnen Cloth, and take of it to moiſten your Compoſition. This is call'd Hemp Water or Milk, and nouriſhes and warms your Sick *Canary Birds* better than fair Water, which is put to the common Compoſitions; but it is not to be us'd unleſs in Caſe of Neceſſity; becauſe it is troubleſome to make Water twice a day, and the Little Birds that are in Health do not need to be much warm'd, as the Hemp Water does. I would ſtill add a Compoſition I have ſeen made by an Ancient curious Perſon, but as I know it would be thought troubleſome

to make, and his *Canary-Birds* thrive no better than thoſe that are rear'd with the laſt, I will paſs it by in Silence, to avoid over burdening the Memory of thoſe who ſhall read this little Treatiſe.

As for Proviſion of Biskets, it is needleſs to lay in any, becauſe they are to be had at all times; only take the hardeſt, and thoſe that have been longeſt Bak'd, which are to be given now and then to the young *Canary-Birds*,

But as for the Simnels, a Stock of them muſt be laid in about *Michaelmas*, when the Paſtry Cooks give over making of them. You muſt therefore cauſe ſeveral Dozens of them to be made, according to the Number of *Canary-Birds* you have; ſtring, and keep them in a dry place, and give them to your *Canary-Birds* the day you give them no Seed. They are very fond of it and it can do them no Harm. Bruſh the Simnel well before you give it them, becauſe of the Duſt that may ſtick on it.

The Simnels I cauſe to be made, have more Crum, and are not ſo flat as the others. I cauſe good Butter to be put into them, and a little more Salt than is uſual in others, and thus they keep very well till the time when new ones are made. A little of the Crum of the Bread may alſo now and then be put into the Cages,

but

but it muſt be Stale, becauſe the New might choak them.

CHAP. IX.

The Hours to be carefully obſerv'd for feeding of the Young Canary-Birds, *when they are brought up by Hand.*

IT is not enough to know how to make ſeveral good nouriſhing ſorts of Paſte to feed the *Canary-Birds* that are to be brought up by Hand; it is alſo requiſite, in order to rear them without danger, to know when to give and when to refuſe them their Food. If a regular courſe of Life be convenient, even for the ſtrongeſt Body'd Men, to preſerve and prolong their Life, how much more neceſſary muſt it be, without all compariſon, to rear thoſe tender Little Birds, whom the leaſt Exceſs in eating certainly kills paſt all retrieving; perhaps ſome may ſay, I have not obſerv'd any Rule of this ſort, and yet I have rear'd many. But if I ask them, have any dy'd

as

as you were breeding them by Hand? they will own that many, and ſtill more at Moulting Time. I muſt tell them, that the cauſe of their Dying whilſt they are rearing by Hand, is their not being able to brook the negligent looking after them, for ſometimes they are Starv'd by the long Interval between the Times of feeding them; and ſometimes they are Surfeited by being fed too often and indiſcreetly; and conſequently Young Birds ſo irregularly rear'd grow Sickly, which is thought to be for want of Feeding, and then the Keepers try all ways to make them open their Beaks to ſwallow ſomething, but all in vain, their Stomachs being ſo full that they are choak'd up, for nothing digeſts with them, and ſo having pin'd a few days, at laſt they Dye. I have obſerv'd that the *Canary-Birds* rear'd by Hand, without obſerving any certain Rule in feeding them, are commonly ſo thin, poor and weak, that they are more likely to Dye than to Live, and the firſt Illneſs that ſeizes them, which is commonly their Moulting, they have ſuch an ill Conſtitution and ſo infirm a Body, that they cannot withſtand it, and moſt of them Dye. Then the Owners lay all the Fault on their Moulting, and not on the irregular way of Feeding whilſt they were rear'd by Hand; and I muſt add, that if thoſe

Birds

Birds happen to eſcape the Moulting, and are deſign'd to ſit, the Hens often dye in Laying their firſt Eggs, and the Cocks being always weak and languiſhing, let the Hens lay addle Eggs. Theſe reaſons, which ſeem natural, have oblig'd me to fix a Rule for finding out the proper Hours, without being miſtaken, when to feed the little *Canary-Birds* brought up by Hand, to the end that ſuch Regularity being obſerv'd, they may grow as ſtrong and healthy as if they had been rear'd by the Cock and Hen.

The Rules to be obſerv'd by curious Perſons for feeding of their Young *Canary-Birds* are as follows, *viz.*

The firſt Time at half an Hour after ſix in the Morning, the lateſt.

The 2*d* Time at Eight of the Clock.

The 3*d* at half an Hour after Nine.

The 4*th* at half an Hour after Eleven.

The 5*th* at half an Hour after Twelve.

The 6*th* at Two.

The 7*th* at half an Hour after Three.

The 8*th* at Five.

The 9*th* at half an Hour after Six.

The 10*th* at Eight.

The 11*th* at Three Quarters after Eight, for the laſt Time.

Thus you ſee the young Birds are to be fed Eleven times a day, without any Trouble or Uneaſineſs, the ſame regular Hour being

being always obſerv'd. This laſt feeding is not always neceſſary, for very often the young Birds are gone to reſt at that time; they muſt not then be diſturb'd to Feed, and if it be given them it muſt be much leſs than at the other Times; for, as you may perceive there are but three Quarters of an Hour between the two laſt Feedings. You muſt make a little Stick very ſmooth and thin at the End, to feed them with; it muſt be as broad as your little Finger at moſt. Thoſe who make uſe of a Quill cut for that purpoſe have more Trouble in it; becauſe their Compoſition not being liquid, for the Reaſons I gave in the laſt Chapter, the Quill bends and is not ſtiff enough to take up the Birds Food.

You muſt every Time give them their Beak full about four Times, that their Craw may not be too full, which might choak them. I muſt alſo obſerve, that there is more trouble in not following this rule than in keeping to it; for beſides that things do not anſwer ſo well, a Man is every Moment in pain to know how long it is ſince they were fed, and being thus concern'd he goes to the Little Birds, who as ſoon as they ſee him do not fail to gape wide, tho' they have no occaſion, for they would crave every half Hour, if they were to be regarded; then in pity you are apt to feed them, and commonly many of them

them dye of it. I would therefore adviſe thoſe who will not obſerve any certain Rule in this caſe, but their own Fancy, to leave thoſe poor harmleſs Creatures to the Cock and Hen, till they are quite brought to Feed alone, rather than occaſion the Death of their Birds. But as for thoſe who are convinc'd, that there is no Pleaſure without ſome Trouble, and who will exactly obſerve this Method with their *Canary-Birds*, they will perceive them to thrive viſibly, and their Little Birds will by degrees grow ſo ſtrong and healthy, that the Moulting, which is their moſt fatal Diſtemper, will not affect them. After 23 or 24 days, you are to forbear feeding them by Hand, eſpecially when you obſerve them to pick well of themſelves. As for the Lemmon Colour, and Mottled, you muſt continue feeding them 30 days, for they have much ado to Learn to Feed themſelves. A more particular care muſt be taken of theſe Birds than of others. When they firſt begin to Feed alone put them into a Cage without Perches, with a little very fine ſmall Hay, or Moſs, well dry'd, in the bottom of the Cage. The firſt Month they feed alone you muſt give them what follows, *viz.* bruis'd Hemp Seed, ſome Yolk of Egg boil'd hard, ſome Simnel or Bisket very dry and grated, Water with a little freſh

Li-

Liquorice in it, a little very ripe Chick-weed; each of them apart, in the middle of the Cage, and ſome dry Rape Seed in their Trough. When you find them ſtrong enough, take away all thoſe things by degrees, and leave them nothing but their common Food, which I have ſpoken of before.

CHAP. X.

At what Time the Cock Canary-Birds *may be known from the Hens, and the Young from the Old.*

ALL the different ſorts of Birds have their Marks, whereby the Cock may be known from the Hen; ſome are eaſier to be diſtinguiſh'd and others harder. For example, the Cock Linnet is eaſily known from the Hen, becauſe his Wing is whiter, and he is lighter Colour'd. The Cock Gold Finch is no harder to be known, in regard the Muzzle about his Beak and his Back are very black, but the Hen has that Muzzle and the Back brown. To

ſpend

ſpend no more Time in diſtinguiſhing between the Cocks and Hens of ſeveral other ſorts of Birds, I return to our *Canary-Birds*, and declare that it is harder to know the Cock from the Hen, than is generally imagin'd, eſpecially among the high Colour'd Birds, as the Copple Crowns, the Gold Colour, and the Lemmon.

The common Rule to know the Cock *Canary-Bird* from the Hen, is his having a ſort of yellow Gullet under his Beak, which hangs down conſiderably lower than the Hens. Beſides, the Cock has a Head ſomewhat bigger and longer, and is commonly taller than the Hen, whoſe legs are ſhorter; and in every ſeveral ſort, the Cock *Canary Bird* may be known by being of a deeper and livelier Colour than the Hen. To conclude, the laſt thing, which is alſo the ſureſt and moſt to be rely'd on, for diſtinguiſhing the Cock from the Hen, is that the Cock almoſt as ſoon as he feeds alone, begins to warble; but as ſoon as the Moulting is over, you will hear that Cock, which before only warbled, make himſelf known by his ſinging, beyond all doubt; and his ſweet wild Note, which grows louder by degrees, the next Spring at fartheſt attains its ultimate Perfection.

For inſtance, put a couple of Grey *Canary-Birds* into a Cage, and ſee whether what I have ſaid, as to the knowing of

the two ſorts, be not certain. The firſt glance of an Eye you caſt upon the Cage, you will know the Cock, without being deceiv'd; you will perceive that ſort of Yellow Gullet, a Head ſomewhat bigger and longer, you will commonly find the Cock taller than the Hen, and more ſprightly in his Motion, and tho' Grey, he looks Yellowiſh by the Hen, he is ſo much higher colour'd. The Aſh are almoſt as eaſy to be known, eſpecially when they incline not to Gold Colour. The Colour alſo ſufficiently diſtinguiſhes the Copple Crowns, the Hen being perfect white, and the Cock by her inclining to Yellow. But it is very hard to diſtinguiſh between the Cocks and Hens that are high colour'd, as the Yellow inclining to Gold Colour, and the Lemmon Colour, as I have before obſerv'd; becauſe the colours of thoſe Birds being lively, the Gullet is confounded with their own Colours. Many old curious Perſons are frequently miſtaken in them. See what I have ſaid about it in the *4th* Chapter; nothing can then certainly diſtinguiſh the Cock from the Hen but his ſinging.

As for knowing Old *Canary-Birds* from the Young, it is done three ſeveral ways; firſt by the Colour, *2dly* by their Strength, and *3dly* by their Singing.

1. All old *Canary-Birds* have a deeper and

and livelyer Colour in their ſort than the Young; their Feet are rough and blackiſh, eſpecially the Grey *Canary-Birds*; beſides their Spurs are larger and longer than thoſe of the Young ones, whoſe Feet are ſmoother and their Spurs ſhort.

2. The old *Canary Birds*, which have Moulted twice, are ſtronger and more vigorous, and better in Fleſh than the Young, which are generally very weakly till the Spring comes on.

3. The old Birds are to be known, eſpecially the Cocks, by their Singing, which is much Louder, and they hold it longer than the Young Cocks, who have not fully attain'd it till a Year after they are hatch'd. The ſame may be obſerv'd in the Hens, which warble louder than the Young ones, theſe being commonly above ſix Months before they open their Beaks to ſing.

CHAP.

CHAP. XI.

At what time and in what manner Canary-Birds *muſt be put up, to be Taught with a Flageolet.*

IT is a certain Truth, that next to the Nightingale, the *Canary-Bird* ſings beſt, and has the ſtrongeſt Voice of any little Bird. When Young, they eaſily learn what they are taught, as Airs and Tunes on the Flageolet. For my part, I prefer them before the Nightingales, becauſe the Nightingales are much harder to rear than the *Canary-Birds*, and beſides, when a Man has ſo far ſucceeded as to breed up one, among many that dye under his Hands, He muſt make ſeveral ſorts of Paſte, as may be ſeen in the Chapter of Nightingales, and thoſe are very troubleſome to make, and require much Application; whereas the *Canary-Bird* is eaſily fed, eſpecially when once well wean'd from the Hen. Beſides, the Nightingale, after all the pains taken in feeding and rearing, generally ſings but one ſhort Seaſon of the Year, whereas our *Canary-Birds* are continually

tinually warbling at all times. For theſe reaſons, I think, the *Canary-Bird* ought to be preferr'd before the Nightingale, notwithſtanding his Note is ſomewhat more Harmonious than that of the *Canary-Bird*.

As for the Time when a *Canary-Bird* is to be put into a ſeparate Cage, in order to Teach him, that is commonly eight or ten Days after he feeds alone, and not, as many do, who take him out the firſt day they ſee he Feeds alone, without allowing him Time to gather Strength. They unmercifully ſhut him up in a Box, being a ſort of Cage ſo call'd, all ſhut up with Boards, with ſome little Holes at certain Diſtances, that the Bird ſhut up there may not be ſtifled for want of Breath. That poor little Creature being thus ſcarce able to Breathe and being depriv'd of the Air, which ſtrengthens the Body almoſt as much as Food, grows Melancholy and pines away, ſo that it often Dyes in a few Days; thus of many *Canary-Birds* ſhut up in that diſmal Priſon, ſcarce one eſcapes. If you deſire to ſucceed better in that Point, you muſt obſerve this Method.

A Fortnight, at ſooneſt, after your *Canary-Bird* has been taken from the Hen, if you perceive he begins to warble, which is a Sign that he is a Cock, and at the ſame time in good Health; then part him

from the reſt, and put him into a Cage cover'd with a very thin tranſparent Linnen Cloth, for the firſt eight Days. Put him into a Room diſtant from all other Birds whatſoever, ſo that he may never hear any of their Wild Notes, and then play to him upon a little Flageolet, the Notes whereof are not too high, for if your Flageolet is too loud, your *Canary-Bird*, who will not fail to follow the ſame Tone, when he has learnt the Air, and will repeat it ſeveral times in a Day, will ſo dry up his Lungs, that it will cauſe him to grow lean and Dye in a few days.

At the end of a Fortnight, take away that thin Linnen Cloth that covers his Cage, and ſupply it with a Piece of thick green or red Serge, and leave him ſtill in the ſame Place, till he perfectly learns what you teach him. Some *Canary-Birds* are much more apt to learn than others; for ſome are perfect in two Months, and others not in ſix, but you muſt have Patience, when you reſolve to teach them any thing, for without it nothing can be done. When you give him his Food, which muſt be enough for two Days at leaſt, it muſt be done by Candle and not by Day Light, that he may not be diſtracted, but may learn what he is taught the ſooner.

As for the Tunes, he muſt be taught only one fine Prelude and a choice Air;

when

when they are taught more, they are apt to confound them, and being taught too much, they often know nothing perfectly, their Memory is ſo over burden'd, that they know not what they ſing. Beſides their Diſtemper of Moulting, which is once a Year, and laſts above two Months, diverts them ſo that they do not ſing, and conſequently eaſily forget the ſeveral Tunes they have been taught with ſo much trouble.

Do not follow the Notion of thoſe, who think that the many Leſſons they give their *Canary-Birds* every Day, improves them the more; they tire themſelves and only make the Birds uneaſy; five or ſix Leſſons a Day are ſufficient for a *Canary-Bird*, tho' he be never ſo little diſpos'd to learn; beſides the trouble would much outweigh the Pleaſure, if a Man were to be continually about his *Canary-Birds*. You muſt therefore give them but two Leſſons in the Morning when you riſe, another about Noon, and the ſame before you go to Bed. The Morning and Evening Leſſons do the Bird more Benefit than all the reſt during the whole Day, becauſe at that time when all is ſtill, the Birds being leſs diverted, better retain what is taught them, the Tunes taught them muſt be repeated 9 or 10 times at every Leſſon, and thoſe ſame Airs muſt be play'd

running, without repeating the firſt part of them twice, and the Concluſion in the ſame manner, as is uſually done in Concerts, or other Playing. A little Prelude may be given them in *C Sol Ut*, which all Men know is made for Birds, with a March, as that of the Guards, or any other, which is alſo in *C Sol Ut*, as well as the Prelude. When a *Canary-Bird* has learnt thoſe two little Pieces perfectly, every Man ought to reſt ſatisfy'd, without taking the trouble to go about Teaching them any more. They that would meet with good Succeſs, muſt not undertake to teach Copple Crown, nor Lemmon *Canary-Birds*, which have not ſtrength to overcome the Diſeaſes incident to them, nor ſo ſtrong a Voice as the Grey. A Grey *Canary-Bird* of a good Breed, with a white Tail, is more apt to learn by a Flageolet, than any other ſort of *Canary-Bird*. You muſt not pretend to teach two *Canary-Birds* in the ſame Room, much leſs in the ſame Cage, as many have attempted to do. If that be done, it muſt be only for a Time, that is, as ſoon as one of the two begins to take the Tune, they muſt be immediately parted at ſuch a diſtance, that they may not hear one another, becauſe they will do nothing but diſtract one another; and it would be all Time loſt to them and to him that teaches

them

them. This may ſuffice as to this Subject, let us proceed to another.

I have thought fit to prick down the Prelude and Air I have ſpoken of.

CHAP. XII.

Of the ſeveral Diſpoſitions and Inclinations of Canary-Birds.

IT may truly be ſaid, that almoſt all *Canary-Birds* differ in their Temper and Inclinations; but being afraid it would take up too much Time to diſtinguiſh between them all ſucceſſively, I think fit to divide them all into four Claſſes.

In the firſt Place, I find ſome Cocks who are always of a Melancholy Temper, and, if I may ſo call it, thoughty, who ſing but ſeldom and in a doleful Tone, being for the moſt part huffled up. This ſort of *Canary-Birds* ſeldome anſwer the end they are deſign'd for; for if you would teach them to ſing Flageolet Tunes, they are a prodigious Time learning, and are never perfect in what they have been taught; beſides, that what they have learnt they eaſily forget, eſpecially the firſt time

they come to be Sick, as at Moulting Time, or the like; and ſometimes there are ſuch as pine ſo much at being always cover'd, that they Dye; and this ſort of *Canary-Birds*, tho' they are Cocks, I believe would never Sing, unleſs they were put to it under other old brisk *Canary-Birds*, that hearing them continually Sing, they may in ſome manner ſerve them inſtead of Maſters. Theſe ſame Birds are ſometimes naturally ſo ſlovenly, that their Feet and Tails are always very Dirty; when you would clean them without Danger, you muſt uſe the following Precautions.

Take the *Canary-Birds* into your Hand, and with a little Spittle by degrees, take off the hardned Filth that ſticks on their Feet, which often hinders them from perching; and it often happens, that when care is not taken to clean them, their Feet grow ſore and their Claws drop off. If you will make uſe of Water inſtead of Spittle, to clean them, it muſt not be cold, unleſs it be in very hot Weather, for beſides that the cold Water does not clean them ſo well, there is Danger that it may kill them, that Coldneſs ſtriking to them on a ſudden, eſpecially in Winter. Some young curious Perſons have loſt their *Canary-Birds* by uſing of cold Water, at a Time that did not ſeem to them Cold enough to warm it; and your Hands ought

to

to be hot when you take hold of the Bird.

All the particulars I take Notice of in this ſmall Treatiſe, are of ſuch Conſequence, that thoſe who through Ignorance or Negligence do not obſerve them, looſe many of their *Canary-Birds*; for thoſe little Creatures are of ſo tender a Conſtitution, that a very ſmall matter impairs their Health and occaſions their Death.

On the other hand, if you deſign to have this ſort of *Canary-Birds* to Sit, there is not only Reaſon to believe that their Young Ones will be no better than the Old, but the firſt croſs Accident that happens in their breeding, as the Death of any one of the Little Ones, or any Diſtemper of the Hen, or any other thing of this ſort, they grow ſo melancholy and dull, that they often Dye, or if they happen to ſurvive it, they are all the reſt of the Time they remain in their Huts, ſo heavy, that they never chear the Hens by Singing, eſpecially when they perceive the young begin to Hatch. I would adviſe thoſe who have any of theſe, to get rid of them, to ſave themſelves the Concern it will be to them, to ſee that whatſoever they can do for them, nothing will ſucceed.

There are other Cock *Canary-Birds* ſo miſchievous, that they kill the Hens that are given them to Tread; but ſometimes

it happens that thoſe Cocks have ſome other Qualities which make ſome Amends for that Fault; as for Inſtance, they Sing very ſweetly, have very fine Feathers, and are very familiar; therefore there is no need of getting rid of them, ſince they have good Qualities to recompence the bad. Beſides, if, for want of another Cock you are reſolv'd to have a Breed from them, you may do it as I will here preſcribe.

Take two very ſtrong Hens, and, if poſſible, let them be a Year older than that miſchievous Cock you deſign for them; put theſe two Hens ſometimes together into the ſame Cage, that they may grow very well acquainted, and by that means not grow Jealous and Fight, when they have but one Cock between them. A month before they are put up in order to ſit, they are both to be turn'd into the ſame Hut, and when the proper time for coupling is come, put in the Cock to the two Hens; he will be ſure to beat them, eſpecially during the firſt days he is with them; but both the Hens joining to defend themſelves againſt him, they will at length gain an abſolute Aſcendant over him; ſo that perceiving he can gain nothing upon them by Force, he will in a little time grow ſo familiar with the two Hens, as to gain them by Kindneſs; and thus theſe

Weddings by Force often prove more ſucceſsful than others, from which great Hopes were conceiv'd, and in the end come to nothing, or very little. I have taught this way of coupling miſchievous *Canary-Birds* to ſome, who have own'd that it has prov'd ſucceſsful.

There are others of ſo baſe a Temper; that they break and eat the Eggs, when the Hens have laid, and if they happen to let the Hens hatch any, no ſooner do the Little Ones peep out, than they cruelly ſeize them with their Beaks and drag them about the Hut till they dye. The Method to prevent this Accident, and to make that ſort of Cocks fit, is to ſhut up the Cock, the Day before the Little Ones are to be hatch'd, in a little Cage, in the middle of the Hut, and there give him Meat and Drink. There ſeeing the Hen go backward and forward, he will not fret, and the Hen, if ſhe is good, will rear the Young Ones very well alone, without his Help; at the end of 10 or 12 days you muſt take away her Little Ones to bring them up by Hand, that ſhe may not ſpend herſelf too much. As ſoon as the Little Ones are taken away, be ſure to turn the Cock looſe to her, and every time ſhe Sits, do as has been ſaid above. But if he happens to break and eat the Eggs, that is harder to be remedy'd, becauſe he cannot

be ſhut up whilſt the Hen is laying, becauſe her Eggs would prove addle. However this Remedy may be apply'd; as ſoon as the Hen has lay'd her Egg, that very Moment, leſt the Cock ſhould eat it, you muſt take it out of the Neſt and put it into a Deal Box, full of the Sand us'd for making of Glaſs; that Sand is very fine; the Egg is in no Danger of breaking on it, and always keeps freſh; if you will, you may cover the Egg with Moſs and ſhut up the Box, which put into a Place where no Body may meddle with it. This I have here obſerv'd is to be underſtood for putting in the Eggs of all the *Canary-Birds* you have. The Box is to be made purpoſely for that uſe, and to have as many Partitions as you have Couples of *Canary-Birds*. To avoid mixing the Eggs that belong to one Couple of *Canary-Birds* with thoſe that belong to another Pair, the Name of the Pair they come from is writ on the cover of the Box, ſo that it may be exactly over the Partition the Eggs belong to when the cover is on, and thus you eaſily know to which Pair every parcel of Eggs belongs. But to return to the miſchievous Cock, you are to take from him the firſt Egg his Hen lays, and lay an Ivory one in the place, do the ſame the next day, always taking it away the Moment the Hen lays, that

the

the Cock may not have time to break it. When the Hen has laid her laſt Egg, ſhe being no longer in need of the Cock, ſhut him up in a Cage as was ſaid before, and and give the Hen the Eggs to Sit on. The Cock is to remain in his Cage, in the middle of the Hut all the time the Hen continues Sitting, and rearing her Young; but as ſoon as ever you have taken away the Little Ones to bring them up by Hand, there being no more Danger, you muſt let out the Cock again to the Hen. I know, what I have here preſcrib'd in Order to prevent ill Accidents, is ſomewhat of a Confinement; but I only propoſe it to ſuch as have Patience enough, and are reſolv'd to breed from ſuch ill natur'd *Canary-Birds*.

Laſtly, thoſe I aſſign to the *4th* Claſs, are *Canary-Birds* that are always Merry, their Throats being continually open, ſinging long and often. They are ſo Tame, that they take whatſoever is given them, tho' it be out of a Mans Mouth. Theſe may be call'd perfect *Canary-Birds*, being fit for any thing they are deſign'd; for if you will have them breed, they pleaſe the Hen with their harmonious Singing, which revives her very much, eſpecially whilſt ſhe is ſitting. Theſe Birds are ſo good natur'd, that they will often Sit upon their Hens Eggs ſome Hours in a day, and feed the

the Little Ones as soon as hatch'd, to ease the Hens. On the other Hand, if you have no mind to have these Birds breed, but intend to teach them some Flageolet Tunes, they will learn sooner, and sing louder than others. When you happen to light upon such good Temper'd *Canary-Birds*, never think of changing them for others of more beautiful Colours. These Birds, tho' they be but plain Grey, are to be preferr'd before Copple Crowns, who have no other good quality but their beautiful Feathers. There are some curious Persons who when they meet with any of these good *Canary-Birds*, are willing to take them in exchange, tho' Grey, for Copple Crowns, as well knowing that those Grey Ones, will be worth more to them, by reason of the Number of Young Ones they will Hatch and Rear, without fearing they should Dye.

CHAP.

CHAP. XIII.

Of ill Accidents Canary-*Birds are lyable to in ſitting.*

BEſides the croſs Accidents that may be avoided, which happen to *Canary-Birds*, when they are in Huts, whereof I have ſpoken in the laſt Chapter, there are others befalling, notwithſtanding the good Diſpoſition of the *Canary-Birds* that are put into Huts, and all the Care taken of them.

For Inſtance, a *Canary-Bird*, tho' he have all imaginable Accompliſhments, is not exempt from falling Sick, and that often, when the Hen ſtands moſt in need of him, as when ſhe is about laying, or when the little ones are 7 or 8 Days old, which is the Time when a good Cock *Canary-Bird* is to eaſe his Mate of the Burden of feeding them, that ſhe may reſt, in order to go about making another Neſt immediately, to Lay in it again. If then the Cock is taken ill at that Time, a Man is hard put to it, and knows not which way to turn himſelf, eſpecially if he has but newly undertaken to breed *Canary Birds*.

But

But ſince, as is commonly ſaid, there is a Remedy for all Things but Death, the Method to be us'd in ſuch an unlucky Caſe is this.

Take your Sick *Canary-Bird* immediately, and put him into a little Cage; then endeavour as near as you can, to find out what Diſtemper it is that has ſeiz'd him, and having diſcover'd it, apply the proper Remedies with all ſpeed; I ſhall ſpeak of them in another place, when I come to diſcourſe of the ſeveral Diſeaſes *Canary-Birds* are ſubject to. Put the Sick Bird into the Sun, ſpurt a little white Wine upon his Body, which is a Remedy that agrees with all their Diſtempers, after which apply what other Remedies you ſhall think fit. If they have no good Effect, but on the contrary you perceive your Bird grows worſe, and that the Hen begins to pine much for the Abſence of her Cock, it is then Time to think of providing another Cock, to ſupply the Place of the Sick one; but you muſt not follow the Opinion of thoſe, who think that a Hen cannot be ſeveral Days without the Cock. I have ſeen ſome that have rear'd their young ones very well, tho' the Cock were Dead. It is true there are others not ſo indifferent, but 8 or 10 Days may paſs very well without any Danger of the Hens dying for want of the Cocks Company.

pany. You may alſo ſhow her the Sick Cock, putting of him into the middle of her Hut, in a little Cage, for ſome Hours; but this is only to be done when you ſee the Hen very uneaſy and reſtleſs, for want of her Cock.

Without ſeeing the Sick Cock I can tell, that his Sickneſs proceeds, either from having heated himſelf too much with his Hen, or from having eaten too much of nouriſhing Food, ſuch as muſt be given them when they have little ones to rear.

The infallible Remedy for the firſt of thoſe Diſtempers is 8 or 10 Days Reſt; and for the Second to Diet them for ſome days, in order to bring them down, giving them no other Food but Rapeſeed. A few Days after you have made uſe of theſe Remedies, put your Bird again to his Hen, who will be as merry and well pleas'd as before; but if he falls ſick again, he muſt be taken out and return thither no more, tho' he recovers; for it is a certain Token that he is too tender to endure the Trouble and Uneaſineſs of bringing up the Young.

What I have ſaid of the Cock *Canary-Bird*, is alſo to be underſtood of the Hen, only with this Exception, that when the Hen falls ſick, whilſt ſhe is Sitting on Eggs, thoſe Eggs muſt be taken out of the Hut,

at

at the same time with her, and lay'd under other Hens that have been sitting about the same Time. If she falls Sick: when the little ones are hatch'd, you must consider whether they are strong enough to rear by Hand, and if not, they must be given to a Hen that has young ones of about the same Age, for her to feed them. It may happen that the Cock will feed the little ones, without the help of the Hen; however they must not be left to him, especially if they be but 5 or 6 days old; for at that time they have as much need of being sate upon, as of Feeding, because they are not fledg'd; and tho' the Cock keeps them from dying for Hunger, they will be starv'd with Cold, for want of the Hen.

There are Accidents that happen for want of Precaution, as the breaking of Eggs through Heedlesness. For Example, a Hen lays her Egg very early in the Morning, in some close Corner of her Hut, you come in the Morning to remove the Sand, in Order to make it clean, and find too late, that you have broke an Egg, and perhaps it is the loss of a *Canary-Bird* that might have been worth 2 Guineas, which would have come from that Egg. When therefore you do not find the Egg you expected the Night before, in the Nest, you must rather look about every Nook of the Hut for it, then feel with your Hands; I have often found

ſome among Chickweed and Groundſel we are oblig'd to give the old ones, eſpecially when they have Young. Having found the Egg, take it up gingerly by the two ends, for that way it is leſs apt to break than if taken up by the middle, and lay it in the Box I have before ſpoken of.

There is a Diſtemper the Hens are ſometimes ſubject to in a few Days after they are in their Huts. In a moment you ſee the Hen all huffi'd up, and refuſing to eat, and ſometimes ſhe is ſo very ill, that ſhe cannot ſtand upon her Feet, ſhe lyes down on the Sand, and unleſs ſpeedily aſſiſted, will ſoon breathe her laſt. This Diſtemper commonly ſeizes them towards the Evening or in the Morning early. In this caſe you muſt take the Sick Hen in your Hand, and being well aſſur'd that her Diſtemper is occaſion'd by Laying, you muſt, with the Head of a great Pin, put ſome Oil of ſweet Almonds up her Fundament, which will dilate her Pores, and ſhe will afterwards lay her Egg with eaſe. If you perceive ſhe continues ill, you may make her ſwallow a Drop of that ſame Oil, which will eaſe the Gripes and ſharp Pains ſhe endures. You muſt leave her in a little Cage, with ſome fine Hay, place her in the Sun, or before the Fire, if the Sun does not ſhine, till ſhe is reſtor'd to her

former

former Vigour. Give her good Food, as boil'd Seed, Bisket, and dry Simnel, Pinkseed, and if you perceive, that notwithstanding all that good Nourishment, she can scarce recover, spurt some little White-Wine upon her with your Mouth, and make her swallow a little luke warm, with a little Sugar-Candy, or other. These things will restore her to her former Health. This Distemper seldom seizes them but at laying their First or Second Egg.

It also sometimes happens, that a Hen pulls the Feathers off the Young Ones, when they first begin to shoot out, which is commonly when the little ones are 7 or 8 Days old. There are two several ways to obviate this Accident; the first to take away the Young Ones, if they are strong enough to be rear'd by Hand; the Second is, to put the Little Ones, if you must leave them, into a little Cage, with their Nest plac'd in the middle of it; the sticks of the little Cage must be at a good distance from each other, and then the Cock and the Hen wil feed the Little Ones between those sticks, without plucking their Feathers.

It also happens that the Hen sweats over her Young, when they are but 2 or 3 days old, and sometimes as soon as they are hatch'd. This Distemper is discover'd by the

the Feathers under the Hens Stomach and Belly being wet, and the hard coming of the Down on the Little Ones. When the Young are ſix days old, and the Hen begins to ſweat, they are then out of Danger; but many Dye before they come to that Age, being ſtifled by that Diſtemper. I will hereafter ſpeak of ſeveral Remedies that may be us'd at that time; but in regard that all the Remedies I ſhall preſcribe againſt this Diſtemper, are very difficult and hard to prepare, beſides that the care is not always certain, the greateſt and moſt infallible Remedy, is immediately to take away the Little Ones from under the Hen, and, if you have not any yourſelf, to find out ſome Friend who has Young *Canary-Birds* of about the ſame Age, to put them under his Hen, with hers, to be rear'd. Theſe ſmall Courteſies are reciprocal among curious Perſons.

It often happens that Hens lay 3 or 4 Eggs at their firſt breeding, and then leave them; when that happens, after they have lain 2 or 3 days in the Neſt, to try whether ſhe will not bethink herſelf to ſit on them, and you perceive that ſhe does not go to them in that time; but that on the contrary ſhe ſpoils the Neſt the Eggs are in, you muſt take them away, and lay them under other ſitting Hens. I have obſerv'd that the Eggs thoſe Hens would not ſit upon

on were generally addle; for some *Canary-Birds* are sensible when their own Eggs are addle, and then they will not sit upon them. I have also put other addle Eggs under some Hens, instead of their own, which they broke and threw out of their Nest, almost as soon as I had laid them in, and I was fain to give them counterfeit Ivory Eggs to please them till they had done laying, when they are to have their own Eggs given them, that they may begin to sit upon them all the same day. You must not be discourag'd when you see a Hen leave her Eggs at the first sitting time; that most frequently happens to Young Hens that have never sate before; for the same Hens perform Wonders at all the following times of Laying, continually Sitting on their Eggs, and rearing their Young Ones very well. However, there are some Hens that will never Sit, or only the last time of laying; such Hens are rarely met with; besides those who have any such, may let the Hens lay, and give their Eggs to others to sit on, after having left the Eggs of every time, a Day or two in the Nest, to try whether they will not come to them.

It is not to be wonder'd at, if there happen to be some Eggs short of what there was in the Nest, even after they have been several days sate on, the reason of it is

that

that the Hen having perceiv'd them to be addle, has taken them out of her Neſt and eaten them; the very Shells of them are not often to be found. Many who do not underſtand this, would be apt to ſuſpect ſomebody might have taken them away, but without any reaſon.

Another Accident ſometimes happens unforeſeen, which is to find a *Canary-Birds* Foot broken in the Hut, and ſome do not know how that comes about, and the reaſon commonly is, becauſe the holes made in the Elder Sticks are too big, and the Birds Claws too long, ſo that the Birds ſometimes thruſt their Claws ſo far into thoſe holes, that they cannot get them out again, and if you do not happen to be there that very Moment, they flutter ſo violently, that they ſeldom get off without breaking their Toes. To prevent this accident two things are to be done; Firſt, the holes in the Elder Sticks muſt be made no bigger than the point of a Needle; Secondly, the *Canary-Birds* muſt never be put into Huts, without looking firſt whether their Claws are too long, which is frequent in old *Canary Birds*, and then you muſt not ſtick to cut off about half the Length of them at moſt, for ſhould you cut them too ſhort, they would not be able to ſtand upon their Perches.

Special

Special care muſt be taken that the Perches in the Hut be well fix'd that they may not fall, eſpecially when the Cock is going to tread the Hen, for it would occaſion her to lay many addle Eggs.

There are other troubleſom Accidents, which I will not omit, being ſuch as *Canary-Birds* whoſe Claws are too long are ſubject to. The Hen very often does ſo entangle her Claws in the Neſt, when ſhe would go out, that ſhe commonly drags the Neſt after her and breaks the Eggs, or kills the Little Ones, if they are hatch'd.

Sometimes the Hens Claws are ſo ſharp, that they ſtrike through one of the Eggs ſhe ſits on, which taking Air, can never come to good.

Sometimes as ſhe comes to ſit over her Little Ones new hatch'd, her Feet ſlip upon the Body of ſome One of them, which being prick'd with her Claws, Dyes of it.

Another unlucky Accident that may happen, is when you think a Hen feeds her Little Ones well and ſhe does nothing but ſit on them; when you have carefully obſerv'd for half a day at moſt that ſhe carries nothing to the Young Ones, you muſt without loſing more time, take them away from her, and lay them immediately under another Hen, that feeds them well and that has

has Little Ones of her own near about the ſame ſtrength as thoſe then given her. If you happen in one Neſt to have one Little One weaker than the reſt, and ſome others like it in another Neſt, change them, laying the ſtrongeſt together and the weakeſt by themſelves, not leaving above 5 or 6 to a Hen at moſt; and ſhe muſt be a very good Breeder to rear ſo many, without loſing any.

When you have any Hens which you ſuſpect do not feed their Little Ones well, as is frequent among the Mottled and White Ones with Red Eyes, as alſo the Aſh and Lemmon, and laſtly ſome Copple Crowns, whom you know by Experience not to have been good Feeders, you muſt before they are hatch'd put them under Greys, which the curious call Nurſes, throwing away the Eggs of thoſe Greys, if you have not other Hens to lay them under. It is ſufficient that a Hen has ſate 4 or 5 days to give her Eggs that are ready to hatch. Thoſe who live in the Country may lay their *Canary-Birds* Eggs into Gold-finches Neſts, and they will be ſure to have Young ones without any Trouble, provided they take care not to put in Eggs that are unfit, that is, not to put *Canary-Birds* Eggs which have not been ſate on, into a Gold-finches Neſt, whoſe Eggs are very forward; or the contrary,

trary, in both which cases they will come to nothing. Therefore when you have found a Gold Finches Nest you are first to break one Egg, and by that you perceive whether they are advanc'd, that you may put in *Canary-Birds* Eggs that have been sate on about the same time.

When the Little Ones are 10 or 12 days old, they are to be taken away and rear'd by Hand; if you will have them continue longer you must put them into a low Cage, with a little Net over it, that when the Cock and Hen come to feed them, they may receive their Sustenance. When they have been fed some days, you may by degrees bring them nearer to the House, always setting the Cage in a very open Place; and when the Little Ones come out of their Nest, you must put them into a larger Cage and leave them in the same Place, till you perceive that the Cock and Hen go no more to it. During all that time you must put something to eat into their Cage, as the Yolk of an Egg boil'd hard, and bruis'd Hempseed, that they may learn to eat alone, tho' the old Ones feed them at the same time.

No Nests of any other Birds are proper for them. The same might be done in Linnets Nests; but that they commonly forsake their Eggs, when they perceive they have been meddled with.

The

The Yellow Hammers diſgorge; but they feed on a ſort of Seed which kills *Canary-Birds*, and therefore you muſt not venture to give them any to rear in their Neſts, unleſs it be when they are coupled with *Canary-Birds* in Huts to breed Mongrels, where at that time they have no Food given them but what is proper for *Canary-Birds*.

When a Hen happens to fall Sick, ſome days after her Eggs are Hatch'd, or that ſhe forſakes them, as ſometimes has been ſeen, you muſt then, for want of other Hens to put them to, buy a Neſt of young Sparrows, and put as many of them as is convenient into the Neſt of your forſaken Birds, that being altogether they may keep the little ones warm, and then you muſt Feed the little *Canary-Birds* every Hour, till they are twelve days old, after which you muſt feed them as preſcrib'd in the Ninth Chapter. If the Weather be ſomewhat cold, lay over the Neſt a piece of very fine Lambs Skin. You may feed the Sparrows with more common Food than that of the *Canary Birds*, that they may not grow big too faſt. A Neſt of Linnets might be made uſe of, but they are not ſo hot as Young Sparrows. By theſe means I have ſav'd ſome, which would certainly have periſh'd in other Hands, where this Precaution had not been us'd.

Theſe are the moſt common Accidents that may befal *Canary-Birds* when they are in their Huts.

CHAP. XIV.

The manner of putting ſeveral Hen Canary-Birds *to one Cock, in Huts, or Voleries.*

IF you have more Hens than Cocks, and will not be at the Expence of buying others, who may make them breed as follows.

When a *Canary-Bird* is ſtrong and vigorous, which is known by ſeveral Tokens, as when he Sings very loud, long, and often in a day, and is ſo brisk, that he cannot ſtand ſtill one moment in any part of his Cage or Hut, you may, without any difficulty, give him Two Hens.

To this purpoſe you muſt place two little Huts ſide by ſide, each of them having a Door of Communication near one another: Put the Two Hens apart into the Two Huts, and turn the Cock into one of them. The Cock being call'd by both Hens will go ſometimes to one and ſometimes

to

to the other, and by that means Tread them both, which will ſpare you one Cock.

Here follows another Method.

If you have but one Cock, as above qualify'd, and but one Hut, provided it be pretty large, you may alſo put your Two Hens into it with the Cock, making a little Partition in it with a Board, that the Two Hens who are in their Baskets ar the ends of the Hut, may not be diſtracted by looking upon each other. The little Board, I have mention'd, muſt be very thin, and at moſt not reach above a Quarter of the height of the Hut, that being enough to hinder the Hens ſeeing one another, when they are Sitting on their Eggs. That Partition reaching no lower, it will be eaſier for the Cock to carry Food to the Hens. That all things may anſwer the better, the Hens muſt have been kept together ſome Months before, to the end they be well acquainted and us'd to one another, when you put in the Cock you have deſign'd for them; and if it ſhould happen, that when they have both lay'd, they ſhould not Sit, as being diſtracted by being Two Hens in one Hut, you muſt then take away the Eggs and give them to others to Sit on. The Eggs thoſe Two Hens lay will be as good as if each of them had a Cock apart. Thus you will ſave a Cock *Canary-Bird* and a

Hut. Experience will show that this is very easily done, and beneficial for those who practise it. Sometimes there is a necessity for so doing, when the Cock happens to be so sprightly, that he grows uneasy and restless, when the Hen leaves him to Sit upon her Eggs. Then having another Hen with him, he is pleas'd, going sometimes to the one and sometimes to the other, which often prevents his breaking the Eggs, or killing the Young Ones, which he does to divert himself, or in Spight, because he finds the Hen indifferent towards him, and too regardful of her Eggs or Little Ones.

There is still another way of putting several Hens, with a small Number of Cocks, into a little Closet or Volery, very light, and if possible, expos'd to the Rising Sun. Take all things out of it, during the Four Sitting Months, and fill it with *Canary-Bird* Cocks and Hens. You may turn in at least twice as many Hens as Cocks, that is, if you turn in 12 Cocks you may give them 24 or 25 Hens; you may place in several parts, as many little Baskets as there are Hens, and in the middle of the Closet lay all that is requisite for making of their Nests. In the middle of the Closet must also be a Table and on it three or four great Troughs full of Water and their common Seeds. If there

ſhould be but one Trough, ſo many Birds could not Feed all at once, and they would often Fight to come at the Meat firſt. You muſt alſo put in long Elder Sticks for them to Perch on. There muſt be a Wire Grate, that the Glaſs Windows may be open'd, when the Weather is Fair, to give them the Air, and that they may not fly away. Every Hen will make her own Neſt, and never miſtake or go into anothers. You may place about the Cloſet ſome Boxes with Greens, as Orange Trees, or the like, which makes them chearful, and ſeveral Hens may make their Neſts there, if a Basket be plac'd in the middle of a Box. Thoſe who have the Conveniency of a little Cloſet, have much more Pleaſure and leſs Trouble than others. They ſee their Birds fly about, as if they were in the open Country. The Eggs may be alſo left in every Basket, without taking them away, as has been ſaid before; and thus you will be at no other Trouble but giving them Meat for ſeveral days, and keeping the Place extraordinary clean to prevent the Mice getting in, who would kill the Cocks and Hens and devour the Little Ones.

The Young Ones are to be taken out of their Neſts after 10 or 12 days, if you deſign to bring them up by Hand; if not, leave them with the Cocks, giving

the Hen another Basket to make a new Nest.

CHAP. XV.

How many Eggs a Hen may lay in a Year; and how they may be known to be good.

IT is to be observ'd, that almost all Hen *Canary Birds* differ from each other in laying.

Some do not lay at all, and those are call'd Barren Hens.

Others are so ill Breeders, that they lay Eggs but once, or twice in a Year; besides, after they have laid their first Egg, they often rest the next day, and do not lay the next till two or three days after.

Others lay only three times, and are regular in each time of laying, having 3 Eggs at every sitting, without any days Intermission.

There is a 4th sort, which may be call'd Common, being very numerous; they Sit four times, and every time lay four or five Eggs; but they are not always regular in laying.

There

There are ſtill others that have more Eggs than all thoſe I have mention'd; they Sit five times, and would do it oftener if they were permitted; every time they lay 6 or 7 Eggs. When this laſt ſort of *Canary-Birds* feed well, they are excellent, too much cannot be made of them; they are worth more than ſix others of the common ſort.

If you would know how many Eggs Hen *Canary-Birds* may lay in a Year, I deſire you to look back upon what has been ſaid, and you will at once perceive that

There is no reckoning the Eggs of the firſt ſort, becauſe they lay none.

Thoſe of the 2*d* ſort may amount to 4 or 5.

Of the 3*d* ſort there may be 9 or 10.

Of the 4*th* ſort there may be about 18.

And laſtly, the Eggs of the laſt ſort, which, as I have obſerv'd is extraordinary, cannot well be aſcertain'd. I ſhall only take Notice, that if you let them go on Laying, that is, till the Moulting time, they will in a Year lay 35 Eggs at leaſt. As for the knowing of the Eggs it is eaſily learnt.

Some ſay they know whether an Egg is good the very moment the Hen has Lay'd it, before ſhe has Sate upon it, which is falſe. They weigh it in their Hand, and

find it, as they ſay, ſomewhat heavier than another Egg they ſuppoſe to be Addle; and upon this Conceit they decide of the goodneſs of the Egg. If a Man were to lay a Wager upon that Trial only, he would be as likely to Loſe as to Win, becauſe it is meer Chance, and not Knowledge that determines; you may as well affirm that the Eggs are good as ſoon as they come from the Hen, without having been then ſate upon.

When you have ſome Pairs of *Canary-Birds*, from whom you have found no Addle Eggs to come, and other Pairs on the contrary, which have never produc'd any good, you may be almoſt ſure to win any Wager you lay upon them, and thoſe who ſhall happen to lay Wagers with ſuch curious Perſons, will be fully perſwaded, that it is the Weight they find in the Eggs which makes them diſtinguiſh between the good and the bad, and yet you ſee they would be groſsly miſtaken.

Do not therefore depend upon that groſs way of diſtinguiſhing, which may often occaſion you to throw away an Egg you ſuppoſe to be Addle, which would have been good, if ſate upon.

To avoid being deceiv'd, you muſt follow the common Rule, which is to look upon the Eggs, when the Hen has ſate upon

on them 6 or 7 days. Take the Eggs then from under the Hen, and view them againſt a Candle, or the Sun. If you perceive that thoſe Eggs are thick and grow heavy, it is a ſign that the Little Ones are forming in them, and that they are good; if on the contrary you find they continue as clear as they were the firſt day you gave them to the Hen to Sit on, it is a certain ſign that they are Addle, and then, eſpecially if you examine them the *7th* day after the Hen has ſate on them, you may without any ſcruple throw them away, for they will only ſerve to tire the Hen to no purpoſe.

If you have ſeveral Pairs of *Canary-Birds*, whoſe Hens have lay'd near about the ſame days, you may take away the Addle Eggs from every Hen, and of three leave only two Sitting, giving 5 or 6 Eggs to an able ſtrong Hen, becauſe very often ſome one of the Little Ones dyes in the Shell, and receives no nouriſhment; and by that means you bring the Third Hen, whoſe Eggs have been given to the other two, to fall to work about making another Neſt.

When your Hens have laid their firſt Egg, it muſt be taken away immediately, and an Ivory one put in the place of it, to amuſe them. You muſt not put in old Addle Eggs, as moſt Men do, which often break in the Neſt, and infect it; and the

ill Scent may make the Old Ones Sick; take away alſo the ſecond Egg, and add a ſecond of Ivory, and do the ſame at the third and fourth. When you perceive the Hen is like to lay no more, return her very early in the Morning her own Eggs, taking away the falſe ones of Ivory. Do this at every ſitting, for ſhould you leave the Hens their Eggs, and not take them away, they would Hatch at ſeveral times, and the firſt Young Birds Hatch'd, being ſtronger than thoſe which would come two days after, would take all the Food from the Hen, and would ſtifle the laſt comers, or ſcratch and diſturb them with their Claws.

A Hen muſt have laid her Egg by 7 of the Clock in the Morning, or 8 at the lateſt. If ſhe ſtays longer, it is becauſe ſhe is Sick, and if you perceive it, ſhe muſt then be help'd, as has been ſaid before.

Some are apt to admire, that of 4 or 5 good Eggs, found to be good, by looking through them on the *7th* day the Hen had been Sitting on them, very often only two Hatch. That Accident may proceed from ſeveral Cauſes, the firſt is ſometimes the often handling of the Eggs whilſt the Hen is Sitting, which cools them ſo much, that the Young Ones in them take no Nouriſhment, and that hinders their thriving; or elſe it is becauſe thoſe Eggs being ſo often

often handled get ſome little Crack, which is inperceptible, and if never ſo little Air gets into the Egg, the Little One in it Dyes immediately. This frequently happens to thoſe who are but newly us'd to *Canary Birds*, for they being Novices, think every thing ſo fine and wonderful, that their Hands are as buſy as their Eyes. To avoid this Misfortune, the Eggs muſt be touch'd but once, that is, the Day when the Addle ones are to be taken away, leaving the Hen and her Eggs to themſelves after that.

This Accident may alſo be occaſion'd by the Hen, who having too many Eggs to Sit on, by changing their Places very often, ſometimes thruſts one from under her, which grows ſo cold, and remains there ſo long unobſerv'd, being hid under the end of her Wing, that the Young One in it takes no more Suſtenance, and conſequently comes not to good.

This is the only Occaſion you muſt take to touch the Eggs, putting that you find cold in the middle of the others.

Thunder is another Accident; for when there happens any extraordinary Thunder on the 7*th* or 8*th* day after the Hen has been Sitting, the Little Ones which are ſcarce half form'd, ſometimes periſh, and the Eggs that were thought to be good, becauſe they were dark and ſomewhat hea-

vy,

vy, are quite ſpoil'd by the Thunder. When the Thunder happens in the day time and the Hen is gone off the Eggs to eaſe herſelf or feed, there is much cauſe to fear the Eggs will be ſpoil'd, and therefore you muſt then endeavour to make the Hen return to her Neſt; for, when on them, ſhe commonly ſaves them from that Accident; and therefore the Thunder is not to be ſo much dreaded at Night, becauſe the Hen is then on her Eggs.

Some put a bit of Iron into the Neſt, to hinder the effect of the Thunder; but I will not preſcribe that as a ſovereign Remedy. When the Thunder happens on the 11*th* or 12*th* day the Hen has been Sitting, it is not ſo much to be fear'd; becauſe the Little Ones are ſtronger, tho' ſtill in the Shell, and very often it only makes them Hatch 24 Hours before their uſual time.

However, Thunder ſometimes is ſo violent that it deſtroys both the Old and Young, and if they are never ſo little out of order otherwiſe, that Thunder makes an end of them, and they are found dead and ſtiff in their Huts, without any other Cauſe.

The Eggs are generally 13 times 24 Hours under the Hens; for Inſtance, you lay 5 or 6 Eggs under your Hen on a Saturday at 7 in the Morning, and you will have

have Young Ones hatch'd the 2*d* Friday following in the Morning. Some, but very rarely, Hatch one day before the uſual time; either the Thunder, as was ſaid above, or the great Heats, as in *July* and *Auguſt*, may cauſe them to advance; others on the contrary, come 24 Hours later, or thereabouts, and that is occaſion'd by Cold, as ſometimes happens at the firſt Sitting in *April*; or it may proceed from having handled the Eggs too often, as has been ſaid; or laſtly, the Hens being Sickly or Weaker than others, the Eggs under them may Hatch a day or more later than uſual.

The Fear of breaking the Eggs when handled, makes us take them up trembling, and even ſo we often break them, either preſſing them too hard between the Fingers, or elſe letting them fall for want of holding faſt. To obviate this Accident, which daily happens to the moſt experienc'd Perſons, they are not to be handled unleſs in caſe of Neceſſity, and when you cannot avoid it. You muſt take them up unconcern'd and without Dread, for the Fear of breaking them often proves a dangerous Precaution. If therefore you boldly take up your Eggs in your Fingers by the ends, but never by the middle, as I obſerv'd before, you will be ſure not to break them; and if ſtill you be apprehenſive, notwithſtanding

ſtanding all theſe Precautions, you may make uſe of a little Coffee Spoon that is very thin, to take them up with, and that way you will ſtill be ſafer.

CHAP. XVI.

At what time a Hen Canary-Bird *toils moſt, whether when ſhe Lays, when ſhe Sits, or when ſhe Rears.*

EVery experienc'd Perſon ſpeaks variouſly as to theſe ſeveral Articles; ſome ſay the Hen is more fatigu'd with Laying than at any other time; for, ſay they, Nature muſt at that time make ſome extraordinary Effort, which is the reaſon that many Hens wanting Strength to bear the Pains they endure at that time, often Dye, notwithſtanding all the Remedies apply'd to them. Others aſſert, that a Hen, which is 24 or 25 days ſitting on her Eggs and on the Little Ones after they are Hatch'd, ſuffers more than in Laying. A Hen, ſay they, that is ſo long without going out of her Neſt, unleſs it be now and then a Moment

Moment in haſte, during the day, upon ſuch preſſing Neceſſities as cannot be avoided, as particularly to eat and drink, when the Cock does not bring her enough, is heated, and endures more than a Hen that has but an Hours Pain and ſometimes leſs, when ſhe is to Lay her Egg; whereas this other, lying continually Day and Night in the ſame Poſture for near a Month, very often grows ſo Sickly, that ſhe is ſometimes found in her Neſt with her Head under her Wing, and ready to dye, unleſs ſhe be immediately taken away to reſt ſome time, giving her Eggs or Little Ones to another to look too, that is either ſtronger, or leſs fatigu'd,

For my Part, I affirm, that the Hen which is rearing her Little Ones ſuffers much more than that which Lays or Sits; becauſe the Laying Hen ſuffers not above an Hour at moſt, as has been juſt ſaid; the Sitting Hen is often inur'd to that quiet Poſture ſhe is in, and the Cock commonly bringing her Food to the Neſt, eaſes her of all care, ſo that very often ſhe grows ſo Fat, being ſatisfy'd with her Condition, that it is troubleſom to bring her down again. In ſhort, ſhe is ſo well pleas'd, that when a Man goes about to make her leave her Neſt, ſhe is for pecking at all that comes near her, to ſhew ſhe is well ſatisfy'd there, and unwilling

to

to remove; but this Hen tires herſelf with feeding her Young, and very often the Cock, who carrys her no Meat, leaves all the Burden upon the poor Hen. Then is ſhe oblig'd to perform ſeveral painful Employments, ſhe muſt Sit upon her new hatch'd Little Ones and ſhe muſt feed them. Sometimes ſhe is reſtleſs and calling to the Cock, who often carries her nothing; ſometimes ſhe is in a Paſſion, ruſhing out of her Neſt, either to beat the Cock, who refuſes to ſupply her with Food, as ſhe requires, or to fetch it herſelf to the poor Little Ones; like the Bee, which in a curious Plat of Flowers ſeeks the moiſture that is upon them, and loads herſelf with it to carry to her Hive.

In the ſame manner you may ſee the Hen ſearch all Corners of her Habitation, to find the moſt juicy of all thoſe ſorts of Food allow'd her, to carry it to her Young. She may be ſaid ſcarce to regard herſelf; ſhe only lives and acts for thoſe Little Ones, always fearing ſhe has not given them enough, and ſo ſhe ſpends and waſtes herſelf for them; inſomuch, that ſometimes you may ſee her decline and fall ſo Sick, that ſhe either dyes, or at leaſt recovers with much Difficulty. I am apt to flatter my ſelf, that the Reader, having had this ſhort view of all the Trouble and Fatigue a Hen endures upon this occaſion,

occaſion,, will readily grant that this ſuffering far exceeds the others of Laying and Sitting.

Thoſe therefore, who deſire to ſpare one Hen more than the reſt, either in regard that ſhe is tender, or that ſhe is more beautiful and higher priz'd than any others they have, muſt manage after this manner. When you will make this Hen Sit, putting her into a Hut with a Cock, you muſt gtve her a Neſt ready made, with ſomething more to add to it, to the end that if ſhe does not like ſhe may alter it. When ſhe has lay'd all the Eggs for the firſt time, they muſt be put under her to Sit on them ſeven days, and then look into them to ſee whether they are Addle; if ſo, throw them away; but if good, put them under another Hen to Hatch. Let the firſt Hen reſt two days; after which give her another Neſt, made like the firſt, and when ſhe has ſate 5 or 6 days on her ſecond Parcel of Eggs, take them away, and give her others that are ready toHatch. Let her rear thoſe Little Ones, which are none of her own 12 days, if ſhe be a good Feeder; for if ſhe is not, the Eggs ought to be taken away the day before they are to be Hatch'd. When you have taken away the Little Ones, to bring them up by Hand, let her reſt two days, and then give her the third Basket, with the

Neſt

Neſt ready made. Put a little very fine Hay into her Hut, to finiſh her Neſt to her own Fancy. When ſhe has ſate upon her Eggs 12 days, take away and give them to another to Hatch, and put your Cock and Hen into a little Cage together, and leave them there till they begin to Moult, when you may part them without any Danger. By this means you may perceive your Hen is not fatigu'd with thrice Sitting; and thus ſhe will live long and have Strength to overcome the Diſtemper of Moulting, which carries off moſt of them, as being before too much weakned.

CHAP. XVII.

Of the ſeveral Diſtempers incident to Canary-Birds.

Canary-Birds during their Life time are ſubject to ſeveral Diſtempers, I know there are ſome of ſo good and happy a Conſtitution, that they may be ſaid to paſs the whole Courſe of their Life, tho' very long, without any Diſeaſe, except their Moulting, and very often they Sing during that very time, as loud, and as long,

long, as the reſt of the Year; but being alſo well aſſur'd, that there are very few of that ſtrong Conſtitution, I have thought fit here to ſet down the Diſtempers all *Canary-Birds* in generally may be ſubject to. I will begin with their moſt common Diſeaſes, and conclude with thoſe that are not ſo frequent.

Canary-Birds being thus liable to many Diſtempers, their Diverſity cauſes various Effects, and produces ſeveral outward Signs or Indications, which if conceal'd, the Occaſion of their Illneſs is unknown; ſo that for the moſt part no Remedy can be apply'd to them, being ignorant of the Malady, and of what is good or ill for it. The outward Signs or Indications, are therefore Circumſtances abſolutely neceſſary for knowing of the inward Diſtempers, which *Canary-Birds* as well as other Creatures are ſubject to.

In this Chapter I will ſpeak of the underſtanding of the ſeveral Diſeaſes that ſeize the *Canary-Birds*, and in the next I will preſcribe the Remedies to be apply'd for the Cure of thoſe Diſtempers.

The firſt Diſtemper I have obſerv'd in *Canary-Birds* is a Surfeit, a Diſeaſe the more dangerous, in reſpect that the Remedies apply'd have very often no other effect than the eaſing of the Bird, and prolonging its Life, without working a perfect

perfect Cure. This Malady they often fall into a Month or 6 Weeks after they are Hatch'd. The Indication of this Diſeaſe is external; for you will ſee the *Canary-Bird* that has it very lean, his Belly tranſparent, big, very hard, full of little red Veins, all their little Bowels being generally ſunk down to the extreme part of their Body. Some of them continue to eat well, notwithſtanding this Diſeaſe; but they muſt infallibly dye very ſoon, unleſs proper Remedies be timely apply'd to this Diſeaſe. There are ſeveral Cauſes which may contribute towards this Diſeaſe, I am acquainted with two of the chiefeſt. The firſt is their Body being parch'd up within, by giving them too nouriſhing Food, whilſt they were brought up by Hand, as for Inſtance, putting too much Sugar, or Bisket into their common Paſte, as is ſtill practis'd by ſeveral Perſons, who kill them with Kindneſs.

The ſecond is, that they reliſh ſo well all that is given them, when they begin to Feed alone, and are ſo well pleas'd that they can live without help, that they eat a great Quantity, and ravenouſly, whatſoever they have in their Cages; ſo that they generally Surfeit. When therefore you have any Young *Canary-Birds*, that are continually Feeding, to prevent this Diſtemper, take out of their Cages that

which

which you ſee them eat moſt greedily, giving them ſome of it now and then, without letting them be continually us'd to it. If nevertheleſs they fall Sick of this Diſtemper, you may make uſe of ſeveral things ſucceſſively, which ſhall be ſet down hereafter.

Moulting is a Diſtemper no leſs Dangerous to *Canary-Birds*, than that we have laſt ſpoken of; there would be many more curious Perſons in this Point, had not they quitted the innocent Pleaſure of breeding ſuch fine Birds, on Account of Diſguſt and a ſort of Deſpair, ſeeing very often, in leſs than a Month, all the Birds dye, which they had been at the Trouble of rearing the beſt part of the Year. This Diſtemper carries off as many *Canary-Birds* as breeding of Teeth does Infants, great Numbers of which daily dye, for want of Strength to endure thoſe ſharp Pains; but as all Years are not equally fatal, and ſome Years ſcarce any *Canary-Birds* dye of Moulting, as for inſtance, when Autumn is fair and temperate: This ought to be an Encouragement to ſuch as deſign to take this innocent Diverſion of breeding them. Beſides, if no *Canary-Birds* dy'd of Moulting, which is the Diſtemper that deſtroys the moſt, they would in a ſhort time be more common than Linnets, and then their Numbers would in ſome meaſure

measure render them contemptible and of no Value.

I must confess I know no Remedy that can save them all from that Distemper; had I any such to my self, it would be a Treasure to me, and I would desire no other Employment for my Pleasure, and to get Money by.

At the Moulting time, which begins 5 or 6 Weeks after they are Hatch'd, and holds them above two Months, you will see them all huffled, melancholy, and often sleeping in the Day time with their Heads under their Wings; you will find the Cage they are in cover'd with small Down. The Young Ones cast their Down only the first Year and the second their great Feathers, as those of their Wings and Tails. At that time they are very uneasy; they eat but little and very often will not touch that which they like best when in Health. This is the dismallest Condition they are ever in; they are quite stripp'd of their Feathers, when the Weather is cold, as happens to the *Canary-Birds* that come of the last Sittings, which do not Moult till Autumn is well advanc'd, and sometimes in Winter. The Remedies to be apply'd to them shall be prescrib'd hereafter.

They sometimes grow very Sick of a Pimple growing on their Rump, commonly

ly call'd the *Pip on the Tail*; in this caſe Nature muſt be left to work as much as may be; that is, leave them to break it themſelves; but when you obſerve they are much ſwollen and huffled, and you are ſure it is not occaſion'd by Moulting, you muſt look upon their Rumps, and if you find that Pimple, they muſt be ſpeedily reliev'd, as ſhall be ſaid hereafter. Some of them are ſometimes ſo Sick with it, that they have not Strength to break it themſelves; and if they are not reliev'd, they certainly Dye. This is often occaſion'd by Melancholy, becauſe of being in a dark Place, as alſo from their not being purg'd often enough.

They are ſubject to have ſome yellow Scabs upon their Heads, and ſometimes about their Eyes; when this Diſtemper ſpreads, nothing muſt be apply'd to it; Time and cooling Food will carry all that off.

They grow Sick and Lean through the multitude of Inſects that breed in their Feathers, which is diſcover'd by ſeeing them picking themſelves every Moment. There are ſeveral things to be us'd for this purpoſe, which ſhall be ſpoken of in the following Chapter.

All the *Canary-Birds* in a new Hut, ſometimes fall Sick and ſometimes Dye ſoon after they have been put into it; thoſe

thoſe concern'd give them Forty ſeveral things to recover their Health, but all in vain; the Cauſe of their Diſtemper is inward, which is the reaſon why many of thoſe who have been longeſt acquainted with them have not found it out. This is certainly occaſion'd by the Huts being made of old Pipe Staves, which have long ſerv'd to hold Strong Wines; ſo that notwithſtanding the Workmans having plain'd it, as well to take off the Tartar that ſticks cloſe, as to ſmooth it, ſtill the Wood retains a ſtrong Scent, which tho' it be not always ſmelt by others, is ſtill the natural Cauſe of the Young *Canary-Birds* falling Sick, being dos'd and as it we drunk with that ſcent of Wine, and moſt of them Dye in a few days; for tho' the Old Ones may perhaps grow familiar with it, and live in that new Hut, yet the Young Ones being much tenderer than they, Dye almoſt as ſoon as Hatch'd, and we are apt without reaſon, to blame the Hen, for having ſuffer'd her Young Ones to Dye ſo, for want of Food.

The moſt natural Remedy to prevent ſuch Accidents, is not to employ Workmen, who out of Covetouſneſs make uſe of worſe Wood than others, without conſidering what a conſiderable loſs thoſe Huts may occaſion to ſuch as make uſe of them. I know their Profit in it is con-

conſiderable, for an old Cask they buy for 6 or 7 Pence at moſt, affords them Stuff enough to make a Hut, which they frequently ſell for Half a Piece. This is Temptation enough for them, not to regard what unlucky Accidents they may occaſion to thoſe who make uſe of ſuch Huts.

You may know thoſe Huts that are made of Pipe Staves, if you obſerve whether that Hut you are about is made of 20 or 24 Pieces join'd together; for the Top, the two Sides and the Drawing out Board are each of them made of 3 or 4 Pieces, this with the Troughs, the ſliding Boards, &c. may amount to 24 Pieces, which being every where faſtned together with little Pins, it often happens that tho' the Hut is but little us'd, it drops in Pieces, like the Houſes Children build of Cards, which when any one Card is taken away, fall all together in a Moment. This is for the Reputation of many good Workmen, who uſe only good Stuff, and very often ſell it no dearer than thoſe who often practiſe the contrary.

If, notwithſtanding what has been ſaid, you will make uſe of Huts made of Old Pipe Staves, you muſt ask the Workman, whether they are newly made? which he ought to tell you, if he has never ſo little

Honesty; and if the Hut is New, you must expose it for some time in a very Airy Place, that it may by degrees lose that ill Scent it has contracted, and then put your *Canary-Birds* into it. I know one who would have, not long since, gone to Law with the Person that sold him his Hut; because all his Young *Canary-Birds* dy'd in less than two Days, fancying that the Hut had been poison'd; but having undeceiv'd him, by demonstrating that the Occasion of his *Canary-Birds* dying, was no other than what I have here mention'd, he desisted; only assuring me that he would never make use of such Huts again. However he would needs make an Experiment of what I told him, putting two healthy Grey *Canary-Birds* into that Hut, they two Days after began to huffle up their Feathers, and would certainly have Dy'd, had he not taken them out quickly. To obviate all such Accidents, it is best to have such Huts as have been describ'd in the 3*d* Chapter.

CHAP.

CHAP. XVIII.

Several extraordinary Medicines for curing Diſtempers of Canary-Birds.

IT would be to little purpoſe to know what Diſtempers *Canary-Birds* are ſubject to, unleſs we were acquainted with the Remedies which may give them eaſe.

I have therefore thought fit to inſert here the moſt ſovereign Remedies, in order at leaſt to give them eaſe, if we cannot quite Cure them, eſpecially under their 2 firſt Diſeaſes I have ſpoken of in the laſt Chapter, which are very heavy upon them, and ſo very much weaken thoſe poor Creatures, that the Remedies apply'd have not the Succeſs which could be wiſh'd, and we are often oblig'd, after much Care and Trouble to let Nature work, and after all our endeavours, to looſe that which our Medicines could not preſerve.

Several Remedies may be us'd for curing of the *Canary-Birds* that have the firſt Diſtemper I have mention'd, which is the Surfeit.

When you have a *Canary-Bird* that is

Surfeited, which will appear, if blowing up the Feathers on his Belly, you perceive his Bowels black and twiſted, with other tokens I have deſcrib'd in the foregoing Chapter. Then take a bit of Allum about as big as a Pea, and put it into his Water to diſſolve, and renew the ſame every day, which continue for 3 or 4 days. Many curious Perſons have found good Effect of this eaſy Remedy.

Again, when you have a *Canary-Bird* in this Diſeaſe, put a bit of Iron, as a Nail, into his Water, and change the Water twice a Week, ſtill leaving the Nail in it.

Some Perſons at Night take away the Sick Birds drink, and in the Morning give him Salt Water; the Bird fails not at firſt to drink ſome Drops of it. When you have ſeen him drink ſeveral times of that Salt Water, take away that Salt Water, and give him his common Water again. This muſt be done 5 or 6 days ſucceſſively, and if you do not find the Bird recovers, make the following Compoſition. Give him ſome Milk boil'd with an equal Quantity of the Crum of Bread, take away his common Seeds, and give him ſome boil'd Canary Seed, in a little Pot into the middle of his Cage. Do this for four or five Mornings ſucceſſively, and in the Afternoon give him his common Seed again in his Trough. At the end

of the 5 days, at ſix of the Clock in the Morning, put about the bigneſs of half a Lentil of Treacle into his Water, and leave it till you have ſeen him drink of it once or twice. Continue this drink two or three days ſucceſſively, after which prepare for him the following Food; Take a pinch of Millet, the ſame Quantity of Canary Seed, a little Rape Seed, with ſome Grains of Hemp Seed, mix them all-together; then let theſe Seeds juſt be boil'd up, and throw off that Water to rinſe them in cold; then boil a new lay'd Egg hard, bruiſe the White and the Yolk together, putting but a Quarter of it at moſt to the Seeds; add to all this a little bit of hard Bisket, a little Shell full of Lettuce Seed, with the ſame quantity of Pink Seeds; make all theſe into a Paſte and give it to the Sick Bird. Give him alſo ſome Leaves of very yellow Endive, and continue this excellent Compoſition as long as your Bird is Sick. I know this Paſte is troubleſome to make it every day; but when a Man has a fine *Canary-Bird* he is fond of, the Trouble is not regarded, eſpecially when he perceives that the Medicines apply'd do him good, and often quite recover him.

When a *Canary-Bird* is Surfeited, and you ſee his Bowels through his Skin, you muſt give him ſome pounded Walnut,

with boil'd *Canary Seed*, and after it a white Cabbage Leaf and some Sallery.

For a *Canary-Bird* that is Sick with Moulting.

He must be set in the Sun, and if the Sun does not Shine, put him into a hot Place, where no Wind can come, for the least Cold at that time kills him. During the whole Moulting time give him what follows, *viz.* some Wild Tansey, or Silver-Wort Seed, mix'd with a little Pink-Seed, in a little Gally-Pot, in the midst of his Cage; the next Day give him a little dry Bisket and Simnel; give him likewise some steep'd in white Wine; if he eats it, that will do him much Good. Spurt on him with your Mouth, three times a Week, that is, every other Day, some White Wine, and then immediately set him in the Sun to dry, or else before the Fire. If you find him very Sick, make him every Day swallow three or four Drops of the same white Wine, sweetned with a little Sugar Candy, or common Sugar. Put into his Water a little fresh Liquorice well scrap'd; it gives the Water a Relish, and does not over heat them. If you do not perceive your Bird mends, then without any more to do, put into his Cage, besides what I have mention'd, all other sorts of Meat, as hard Egg, both the White and the Yolk, some Simnel, a little

little Lettice Seed, bruis'd Hempſeed, Canary-ſeed, ſome of his own Seeds boil'd, and ſo forth. It is frequently obſerv'd, that Sick Perſons, who were given over, recover their Health and Strength by eating ſomething that pleaſes them, tho' it be contrary to their Diſtemper. The ſame muſt be practis'd with *Canary-Birds*, refuſing them nothing they can eat, when they are dangerouſly Sick, and leaving Nature to do the reſt.

When your *Canary Bird* is troubled with that little Pimple on his Rump call'd the *Pip*, and you obſerve he leaves off Singing, and grows very Sick, take him into your Hand, and with the Points of a fine ſmall Pair of Sciſſars, neatly cut off the Head of that White Pimple, then ſqueeze out the matter gently with your Finger, and immediately lay on the Sore a little Grain of Salt diſſolv'd in your Mouth, and that will certainly cure the Diſtemper. If you perceive your *Canary-Bird* is in much Pain, becauſe the Salt ſmarts, you may an Hour after lay upon the Sore a little Sugar diſſolv'd in your Mouth, which will correct the Sharpneſs of the Salt, and quite heal the Sore.

There are ſeveral harmleſs Remedies for eaſing the *Canary-Birds* of thoſe little Inſects, ſome call Lice, that diſturb them. The firſt way to prevent, is keeping of

them clean; that is, changing their Sand very often, cleaning the Hut, or Cage they are in, twice or thrice a Week. They muſt alſo have Elder or Fig-tree Sticks left them all the Year about, bor'd at ſmall diſtances with the Point of a ſmall Needle, all the Pith being taken out, and the Bark clean taken off, that they may be very ſmooth. Thoſe Sticks are to be ſcrap'd or well ſhaken twice a Week at leaſt, to get out the Inſects, if any happen to be in them. You may alſo at Night put into the Hut a Piece of Linnen Cloth well whitened with Lye; and if there be any Inſects or Lice, you will ſee them in the Morning upon it. But ſome *Canary-Birds* are frighted to ſee any Linnen in their Huts, when they awake in the Morning, becauſe the White ſtrikes their Eyes and ſcares them, and therefore this latter Remedy is not always to be us'd.

Before you put your *Canary-Birds* into a Hut, if it be an Old One, you muſt boil ſome fair Water, and waſh it very well with the ſame ſcalding, which will kill all Inſects and deſtroy their Nits, which lye commonly hid in all the Corners of an old Hut. The ſame is to be done with Cages, when they are old; and thus your *Canary-Birds* will not be tormented with thoſe Vermin, which are often very troubleſome

bleſome to them, for want of being kept clean, and ſerv'd as has been here preſcrib'd.

All curious Perſons, who have many *Canary-Birds*, muſt always have an Infirmary; for it is rare that among a great Number ſome one ſhould not be Sick, which cannot recover unleſs they are parted from the others; for beſides that it will have no reſt, the ſeveral ſorts of Food you would provide to cure it, would be ſoon devour'd by the other Birds in the ſame Hut, which have no need of them. To obviate theſe Inconveniences, the Sick *Canary-Birds* muſt be parted, putting them into a Cage made on purpoſe, and call'd the Infirmary. A *Canary-Bird* Infirmary is no other than a pretty large Cage, cover'd on the Top, at Bottom, and on two ſides with a Piece of thick Red or Green Serge, ſo that no Light may come in but at the Front. The encloſure of this Infirmary is to be made of ſmall Ozier and not of Wire, becauſe this is always Cold and Damp. Set this Cage in the Sun, if it be Summer, and in Winter in ſome Place where there is Fire always. Take heed of expoſing them where there is any Smoak, which is very hurtful and often kills thoſe that are in perfect Health; for the Smoak getting into their Throat, eſpecially when they Sing, ſtifles them in

a ſhort time. A *Canary-Bird* put into ſuch an Infirmary as I have here deſcrib'd, is half Cur'd, and giving him beſides, ſome ſmall matter that is proper for his Diſtemper, you will ſoon ſee him recover his loſt Vigour; for they require Warmth in all their Diſeaſes, and it is plain that they cannot feel Cold in ſuch a ſort of Infirmary. The Troughs of this Cage muſt be plac'd in the Bottom, after the manner of thoſe I have deſcrib'd in the Chapter of Cages and Huts. Then give them all the Medicines proper for the Diſtemper you think they are afflicted with, which have been here ſet down at large; and if notwithſtanding all the aforeſaid Precautions, you have any *Canary Bird* that loſes his Natural Heat, which you may perceive by his being Melancholy, and ſleeping continually without Feeding, and Sitting in the middle of the Cage, with his Beak under his Wing, then take him immediately, and having made him ſwallow two or three Drops of good white Wine ſweetned with Sugar, which is not to be adminiſter'd unleſs in caſes of Extremity, put him alone into a little Cage that has a Piece of fine Lambs Skin at the Bottom and about it, and ſo let him reſt all the Night, hanging the Cage in ſome warm place, as at the Head of the Bed you lye in. The next Morning take out

the

the Sick Bird, and put him into a little Cage, close cover'd, without any Perch. I have in a manner rais'd some from Death to Life by this Method, which is neither Difficult nor Troublesom, especially to one that is fond of his Birds, and the more when he perceives that his little care is not lost, finding very often a *Canary-Bird* to live several Years, which others, less skilful than himself, would have given over as certainly lost. Do not put your Sick *Canary-Birds* among the others again till they are perfectly recover'd.

All Creatures having their several ways of cleansing or purging, I believe it will not be thought amiss, that I should here say something particular of the purging of *Canary-Birds*.

Purging of *Canary-Birds* consists only in changing for a day or two their ordinary Food, which is Rape Seed, Millet, Canary Seed, Hemp Seed, *&c.* and instead of all these giving them only Rape Seed, Lettice Leaves, Chickweed and Groundsel. You may also give them some little Raddish Leaves, as also Beet Leaves; but when the Season for all those cooling Herbs is over, give them in lieu thereof good Melon Seeds shell'd and Lettice Seed.

There are two ways to know when your *Canary-Birds* want Purging.

The first is, when they Dung with much difficulty,

difficulty, which is a sign that they are very hot within.

The other is, when you perceive that they are continually throwing out the Seeds you put into their Troughs, which shews that they Eat very little.

These two tokens, without losing time to mention many more, may suffice to convince you that your *Canary-Birds* are in much need of being Purg'd. During the two days when you give them the things above mention'd, you must also give them a little Sugar Candy, or common Sugar in their Water. These things may be given them twice a Month, and this Precaution will prevent their being full of Humours, they will always Sing Merrily, and have a good Stomach.

CHAP. XIX.

Other Distempers Canary-Birds *are subject to, with the Cures.*

Canary-Birds are subject to some Diseases, in which they may be help'd without any Trouble. For instance, when they are out of Order by being too well

Fed

Fed and growing too Fat, you muſt then take away all the ſorts of Nouriſhing Food uſually given them, as Canary-ſeed, Millet, Hempſeed, Simnel, Bisket, *&c.* and in lieu thereof give them nothing but bare Rape-ſeed, and if you perceive they can ſcarce eat it, to encourage them you muſt ſteep it for ſome Hours, and having thrown off the Water you may give it them; for the Shell being then ſomewhat ſoftned they will eat it very well. You may continue this Diet till you perceive they are ſomewhat brought down.

They are ſubject to have ſome yellow Scurf or Scabs on their Heads; when it is not ſpread, nor thicker than a Hempſeed, you may open the Sore with the Point of a Pair of Sciſſars, making a little Inciſion to let out the Malignity, which ſometimes riſes like an Excreſcency, and then ſoften it with ſomething that is moiſt, as Oil of ſweet Almonds, ſweet Lard, Capon's Greaſe, or freſh Butter; but when the Evil is ſpread all over the Body, make uſe of the Medicine I have ſet down in the 17*th* Chapter.

Canary-Birds ſometimes ſuffer much, for want of a little Precaution.

Sometimes a *Canary-Bird* is put quite out of Order by being handled too roughly. You will hear him when he is in your Hand make a Noiſe like the ſnapping of a Finger.

a Finger. This Cry, or Noise is follow'd by some Drop of Blood coming from his Beak, and then you may see the Bird as it were stunn'd and not able to extend his Wings. You must put him again immediately into his Cage, cover him with some thin transparent Cloth, and hang him in some Place out of any Noise of People, that he may not be disturb'd; set his Meat and Drink on the Bottom of his Cage, taking away the Perches, and give him good Food; if he survives 24 Hours, there is Hope that he will not Dye, of it, but will only be gaunt and thin. This generally only happens to *Canary-Birds* that are Wild and Unruly, being commonly those that have been rear'd by both Cock and Hen. To prevent this Accident you must use Precaution, drawing near the Cage, out of which you would take the Bird, by Degrees; you must give him Notice at a distance, either with your Mouth or Hand; for if he be taken by Surprize, tho' he does not fall into the dangerous Distemper I have spoken of, it often happens that when you miss taking him at First, he flutters about the Cage, till he breaks his Head or Wings. When you would take a *Canary-Bird* that is in a Volery, you may use a sort of little Net made purposely to catch them. Some make a little sort of Trap Cage, which

which they ſet into the Volery, with ſome ſweet eatables in it, as Simnels, or Biskets; the *Canary-Birds* ſoon run into it, one after another, and ſometimes ſeveral of them together. Thoſe that are taken in it you put into a Cage, and return the Trap to the Volery, till ſuch time as the Bird you would Catch is in it, and then you return all the others you have no Occaſion for into the Volery. I find this a very convenient way of taking *Canary-Birds* out of a Volery; and muſt own this Method does not ſcare them, and conſequently they are out of Danger of all thoſe Accidents above mention'd, which happen when taken by Hand; but I am ſenſible of an Accident which may happen, and therefore diſcourages me from practiſing this way, and that is, that it may fall out, that as the Trap is falling to ſhut in the Birds that are within, others may be walking upon and about the Trap Door, not being able to get in till the many others that are before within are clear, and the Trap Door falling in the mean time very quick, before the Birds that are on the Edge of it can be gone, they are in great Danger of having their Claws broken, and ſometimes of being kill'd. I leave the Curious to make Choice of what they ſhall think moſt for their Conveniency,

and

and leaſt hazardous, for killing their *Canary-Birds*, when they are to take any out of their Voleries.

There is ſtill another ſort of Diſtemper incident to *Canary-Birds*, which may be call'd a Drooping, becauſe the *Canary-Bird* that has it, is puff'd up and ſwell'd; his Body appears full of little red Veins, his Stomach clings to, he Eats little all Day, and does nothing but throw about the Meat with his Beak. This Drooping may proceed from his being in a Dark Melancholy Place, or by ſeveral Cocks being in the ſame Cage, and taking ſuch an Averſion to each other, that it makes them fall into this Malady. The Remedy is, parting of them into ſeveral Cages, if you ſuppoſe the Diſtemper proceeds from that Cauſe; if it be from being in too Dark a Place, you muſt mend it, by putting them into another that is more lightſome, to make them Merry and recover their Health. Till they are quite recover'd of this Diſeaſe, their Diet muſt be mended, giving them ſome little Sweet to eat, and putting ſome Liquorice into their Water.

It is a great Miſtake to ſay, that *Canary-Birds* have the Diſtemper call'd the *Common Pip*. That which is commonly taken for the *Pip* is a ſort of Canker that grows on their Beak, and proceeds from

a great Heat in their Bowels; they may be cur'd in a few Days, by giving them ſeveral ſorts of things to cool them, as Lettice-ſeed, and put a Pinch of Melon-Seeds into their Water for three or four Days; and when you perceive they are a little better, take away that Water, and give them freſh, with a little Sugar-Candy in it, and continue the ſame for five or ſix Days longer.

Canary-Birds are alſo ſubject to a Looſeneſs, which is eaſily perceiv'd when their Dung is more liquid than ordinary. They are then continually ſhaking and clapping to their Tails, and themſelves languiſhing. When you obſerve this, you muſt pull their Tail Feathers, and thoſe about their Fundament, and anoint that Part with Oil of ſweet Almonds, or freſh Butter, and then give them Lettice-ſeed and Melon Seed ſhell'd, for four or five Days; as alſo the Yolk of an Egg boil'd hard, leaving them very little of their common Food, eſpecially the firſt three Days.

It often happens that *Canary-Birds* break their Wings, or their Legs; when either of theſe Accidents happen you muſt uſe the ſame Medicines. You muſt in either caſe put your Bird into a little Cage with ſome Moſs, or fine Hay; take away his Perches, ſetting his Meat and Drink on the bottom of his Cage in a corner. Having

ving no Perch, he will not hurt himself by striving to get up. You must not bind their Feet, tho' they be broken, because it would cause an Inflammation in the Ligature. Hang him up cover'd in some By-place, for fear lest he happen to make his broken Foot, or Wing, worse, when any Body comes near his Cage; and the broken Foot being thus left to itself, Nature, which is the best Physitian, will soon heal it.

The Falling-Sickness is very dangerous to *Canary-Birds*, but they seldom are liable to it. Of all Birds the Gold-Finches have it most. When this Distemper happens to seize your *Canary-Birds*, if they escape the first time, you must pare their Claws and sprinkle them at least twice a Week, with strong Wine lukewarm; you must not let them Sit to Hatch, nor teach them with a Flageolet, but set them often in the Sun, to chear and make them Merry.

Sometimes *Canary-Birds* fall Sick by being too much heated inwardly; you must then take away their white Seeds, as Canary Seed and Millet, as also Hemp Seed, and for a Fortnight give them nothing but Rape Seed, Lettice Seed, Chickweed and Groundsel, if it be the proper Season, as in *May*, when it begins to be thorough ripe. You may also give them some,

ſome Raddiſh Seeds and other cooling Herbs. That which at one time is good and Phyſical for them, is Poiſon at another. Some Perſons, as ſoon as they find any Chickweed, or Groundſel in Gardens, even before the Spring, immediately bring it to their *Canary-Birds*, who feed on it freely, and often dye in a few days after. That is then the only cauſe of their Death; the Chickweed, or Groundſel you ſo eagerly gather for them, is perfect Poiſon to them; becauſe that Chickweed, or Groundſel, is in a manner Wild, being produc'd only by the Snow or Water, and not ripe; the Sun which has not yet ſhin'd on it, has not yet taken off its Crudity, and of Conſequence it is rank, for which reaſon it does not Digeſt in the Stomachs of the *Canary-Birds* you give it to, and therefore they ſometimes Dye in a few Hours, without your imagining the cauſe. Tho' you ſhould think thoſe Greens very ripe, and you had ſeen the Sun ſhine on them ſeveral days, yet you ought to give them to your Birds very ſparingly, eſpecially the firſt days; becauſe thoſe Birds having been the ſix Winter Months without eating any, it would diſorder their Bodies, being a change of Diet, which will certainly Gripe them, and occaſion ſuch a Diſtemper as is often very hard to be cur'd. I know one, who after he had

pleas'd

pleas'd himself all the Winter with the Thoughts of having several Couples of fine *Canary-Birds* to Lay and Sit in the Spring, lost them all in less than a Fortnight, in *March*, by giving them Greens, which a Peasant had brought him out of the Country. By this you may judge how dangerous it is to give *Canary-Birds* any thing out of Season.

When a *Canary-Bird* has an Asthma, you must give him some Plantan Seed and hard Bisket, steep'd in good white Wine. This Distemper is known when *Canary-Birds* very often in a day make a Cry, which they fetch up from their Stomach.

Canary-Birds are subject to another Disease, which some curious Persons call, *the cracking of the Skin*, and then their Voices quite fail them. This commonly befalls them after Moulting, when they have been three Months without Singing. They sometimes lose their Voice so far, as either to Sing very low, or not at all. You must then give them good things, which may moisten their Breasts, as hard Yolk of Egg cut small, with some soft Crums of Bread. You must put into their Water some fresh Liquorice well scrap'd; which gives the Water a Relish, and moistens their Throats.

When a Hen that has Young Ones happens to Sweat, which appears by the Feathers

thers on her Stomach and Belly being wet, as I have obſerv'd before, the Young Ones then under her, are in danger of being ſtifled, and you may ſee that their little Down does not come out. Curious Perſons uſe ſeveral Remedies for this Diſeaſe, ſome of which I will here ſet down.

Some put a little Salt into half a Glaſs of fair Water, and when it is diſſolv'd, they take the Sick Hen out of her Neſt, and waſh all her Belly with that Salt Water, and having ſo done for about half a Quarter of an Hour, they dip the Hen in fair Water, to take off all the Salt, and then putting her into a little Cage in the Sun, or before the Fire, ſhe prunes herſelf and grows dry in a Minute, and then ſhe is put again into her Hut.

For my part, I make uſe of the Bone of that they call the Cuttle Fiſh, which Jewellers alſo make uſe of, which I reduce into fine Pouder, and with it rub the Belly of the Sweating Hen. I find that dries her and takes off the groſs ſweat. This muſt be done every three Hours, till the Little Ones are 5 or 6 days old. If this ſeems to be too troubleſom, you muſt do what I obſerv'd in the 13*th* Chapter.

Theſe are the Diſtempers *Canary-Birds* are moſt ſubject to. There are ſome more, which I ſhall not mention, becauſe it is very rare for them to be Cur'd, as

when

when they grow Blind with Age, or Gouty for the same Reason. There is no other Cure but keeping of them warm, till they have paid their last Debt to Nature.

CHAP. XX.

What sorts of Birds may be coupled with Canary-*Birds, and of the Mongrels they breed*

IT being natural for Man never to be Satisfy'd with what he has, but to despise what is in his Power, and ardently to desire whatsoever is out of his Power; curious Persons at present act accordingly in respect to *Canary-Birds*. They are not satisfy'd with having Abundance of *Canary-Birds* of the most beautiful sorts; but are for altering their Nature, and most of them take pains to make *Canary-Birds* couple with Birds of another sort, whose Young are call'd Mongrels; but where one succeeds, there are very many who make nothing of it, for want of knowing how to Couple their Birds right. Here follows what is to be observ'd, if you would

would ſucceed in breeding of Mongrels.

What Birds may be coupled with Canary-Birds.

Moſt of the Birds that Warble and Sing, as Yellow-Hammers, Chaffinches, Linnets, Gold-Finches, and many more, which would be too tedious to mention in this place, may be coupled with *Canary-Birds*, but it is requiſite to be inform'd of many particulars, in order to ſucceed in having Mongrels. It is requiſite to this purpoſe, that the Bird deſign'd to be Coupled with a *Canary-Bird*, have been brought up by Hand, and be us'd to no other Food than what is generally given to *Canary-Birds*, to the end that when they are ſhut up together there be but one ſort of Proviſion made for them. For example, a Gold-finch is us'd generally alone to Eat nothing but Hempſeed, ſuch a Gold-finch ſo bred, cannot be coupled with Hen *Canary-Birds*, without great Hazard that one of them will Dye, for if you deprive the Gold-finch of his Hempſeed, when he is in the Hut with a Hen *Canary-Bird*, and give him only Rape-ſeed and Millet, that Change of Diet will make him Sick, and may happen to kill him. If on the other Hand you leave him his Hempſeed, as before, the Hen *Canary-Bird* that is with him, will eat ſo much of it as will make her Sick; becauſe the Hempſeed being

too

too hot a Food for her, muſt of Neceſſity be very hurtful to her. The ſame I have ſaid of the Gold-Finch is to be underſtood of all other Birds deſign'd to be coupled with *Canary-Birds*.

Moreover, the Bird you put up with your *Canary-Bird* muſt be at leaſt 2 Years old, eſpecially the Hens, which ſcarce ever Lay the firſt Year; therefore many Perſons being ignorant as to this part, have been quite diſcourag'd, having ſeveral Years coupled other ſorts of Birds with their *Canary-Birds*, and never had any Young Mongrels.

It is alſo requiſite to put thoſe Birds you would have Sit, ſeveral Months before into the ſame Volery with your *Canary-Birds*, that they may grow acquainted by degrees, ſeeing one another long before they come to Couple.

Thoſe Birds muſt be made as Tame and Familiar as the *Canary-Birds*, by keeping them in a low place, where People are always, that they may not be Wild, when you muſt come to ſupply them with what they want.

The general Method is to put a Hen *Canary-Bird* and a Cock Gold-finch, Linnet, or other; but for my part I am for the contrary, that is, a Cock *Canary-Bird* and a Hen Gold-finch, Linnet, or other, becauſe, for the moſt part the Male com-

municates more of his Kind to the Breed than the Female; and conſequently the Mongrels that come from a Cock *Canary-Bird* will be more Beautiful, and Sing better, than if they came from a Hen *Canary-Bird.*

As for the Mongrels that come from theſe Birds, they are not all equally Beautiful, and ſome of them are but very indifferent as to their Feathers and Singing.

For inſtance, the Mongrels from a Yellow-hammer, are a little Blewiſh, and the Cocks of them Sing very ill, eſpecially when the Sire is a Yellow-hammer, and the Dam a *Canary-Bird.*

The Cocks which come from Linnet Mongrels Sing much better than any others, but that is all, for their Plumage is very ordinary.

The Green Bird tho' it warbles, will bring no Mongrels, his loud Note and gaping Throat, when in love, frights the *Canary-Birds*, and they run away as far as they can; ſo that it is rare to ſee them couple with *Canary-Birds*, unleſs it be an old very ſprightly *Canary Bird*, that has been Bred among thoſe Birds; and there may be ſome hopes of having little Mongrels.

If you would have beautiful Mongrels

and good Singers, they muſt be bred out of a Gold-Finch, which is the beautifulleſt of Birds as to his Plumage. They may be ſaid to be no leſs charming to the Ears, than they are agreeable to the Eyes; the great Plenty there is of them occaſions their not being valu'd as they deſerve. Thoſe that build their Neſts among Thiſtles are diſtinguiſh'd above the reſt, as being ſtronger, ſprightlyer and better for Singing than others. They differ ſomething from the reſt in the Colour of their Feathers, which are ſomewhat darker than thoſe that are bred in other places.

If you would be ſucceſsful in breeding ſuch fine Mongrels, you muſt couple them thus: Take a white Cock two Years old, and that has not been coupled with Hen *Canary Birds*, for moſt *Canary-Birds* are not like our Nice Perſons, they do not love Change; and ſeeing a Hen whoſe Notes and Colour are ſtrange to him, he might happen to ſpend the Seaſon without Treading that Hen. Beſides that Hen Goldfinch muſt have been bred up by Hand, or at leaſt it muſt be very long ſince ſhe was taken, that ſhe may be grown Tame and Familiar, and us'd by degrees to feed on Rape Seed and Millet, with very little Hemp Seed, for the reaſons afore laid down.

You muſt not fail from time to time

to put ſome Thiſtle Seed into the Huts where Gold-Finches are Sitting; for they are very fond of that Seed, which is in a manner their firſt Food.

Put this Mongrel Pair together into a little Cage a Month ſooner than the others, that they may have time to be acquainted before they come to make love.

Thus you ſee you may expect a fine Mongrel breed; for the Cock *Canary-Bird*, whoſe kind commonly prevails, will produce much White, and the Hen Gold-Finch communicating a little of her ſeveral Colours, the Young Ones will be worth any Money. I do not ſay the contrary may not be done, that is, to put a Cock Gold-Finch to a White or Copple Crown Hen *Canary*-Bird; but the kind of the Cock for the moſt part prevailing in the Breed, as has been ſaid, the Little Ones bred by this latter Couple are almoſt all Gold-Finches. The Young Ones that come from theſe mix'd Birds, often breed others the next Year, contrary to the Opinion of him that has writ the contrary; and this ſecond Mongrel Race are ſo beautiful that they cannot be too high rated. Such are thoſe I ſaw the laſt Year in this City, which were ſold for 500 Livres, that is the Mongrel Cock and Hen and three of their Young Ones. Nature had never

produc'd any thing ſo beautiful in Mongrel Birds. I will not here deſcribe the Variety of Colours they were adorn'd with; I think the mentioning of the Price is ſufficient for every one to gueſs at their Beauty.

All the little Cock Mongrels that come from theſe different ſorts of Birds, are to be put under old *Canary*-Birds that are ſmart Singers, that they may inſtruct them in their Natural Notes. The ſame is to be obſerv'd as to Young *Canary*-Birds; that is, there muſt always be three or four Old *Canary*-Birds that Sing well, in the Volery with them, to teach thoſe Young Ones, who will readily learn what they hear.

If you will bring up Young Linnets by Hand, and when they can feed themſelves, put them to thoſe Cock *Canary*-Birds I have juſt now ſpoken of, thoſe Linnets in leſs than half a Year will Sing almoſt as well as your *Canary*-Birds, and will take the ſame Notes, ſo that if you did not ſee them, you would be apt to take them for true *Canary*-Birds.

There are ſeveral ways of knowing the Grey, Yellow and Aſh *Canary*-Birds, *&c.* when they are of the Copple Crown breed. 1. By their having ſome white Feathers in the Tail. 2. By their having little white

white Spurs. 3. By their having Down, which you may know by taking the Bird in your Hand, and blowing gently on his Stomach and Belly, you will perceive a little white Down, which of conſequence differs in Colour from his natural Plumage. Some *Canary*-Birds have much more of this Down than others; and therefore the Curious call the latter *Little Down Canary*-Birds, that is, that it appears thin; and the others are call'd *Great Down Canary*-Birds, that is, where there is much of it. This Down does not generally come till after they have Moulted. I muſt add, that there are ſome *Canary*-Birds, which are of the Copple Crown Breed, and yet have none of thoſe marks I have above mention'd; ſo that you muſt rely upon the Honeſty of the Perſon who Sells them you as ſuch.

There are ſome *Canary*-Birds who have all the three marks I have ſpoken of, but one of them is ſufficient, to perſwade you that they are of the Copple-Crown Breed.

CHAP. XXI.

Why moſt of the Canary-Birds *brought us from* Germany, *are apt to Dye ſoon after we have bought them.*

SOme *Germans* reſort to this City twice a Year, that is, in Spring and Autumn, who bring over Thouſands of *Canary-Birds* from *Tirol*, an Earldom in the Circle of *Auſtria*, and the Southern Part of *Germany*; for it is not to be believ'd, as ſome ſtill do, that the *Canary-Birds* they bring are bred in the cold Parts of *Germany*. As ſoon as they come, People reſort to them from all Parts; ſome out of Curioſity, to ſee whether they have any *Canary-Birds* that are not of the common ſort; others go to lay out their Money. Theſe laſt are better receiv'd than the former; but when you go to ask Queſtions of them concerning their *Canary-Birds*, or other ſuch like Affairs, without Buying any thing, they give you a very bad Reception, and in ſhort, they uſe you very roughly, making good the Proverb, *Point d' Argent, point de*

de Suiſſes, or *no Money no Suiſſes*; but as ſoon as you ſhow them that precious Metal, without which the moſt Ingenuous Man is not valu'd, I ſay, when they perceive you come to Buy ſome of their *Canary-Birds*, they receive you very courteouſly, and in their broken Language expreſs themſelves very much your Humble Servants; and that they value your Money no leſs than your Perſon.

I find two Motives, which incline Perſons newly addicted to the Curioſity, and not well acquainted with *Canary-Birds*, to Buy them of the *Swiſs* or *Germans*.

On the other Hand, there are two Reaſons which prevail with thoſe who have been longer acquainted with *Canary-Birds*, not to Buy of them.

Not to ſpend much time, I muſt ſay in a few Words, that the firſt Motive young Dealers in *Canary*-Birds, have for buying them of the *Germans*, is only Covetouſneſs; becauſe it muſt be granted they ſell Cheaper than the City Breeders.

The 2*d* is, that becauſe they have not ſeen *Canary*-Birds bred here, and the others come from far, they imagine there is ſomething more choice in their Notes or Plumage than in thoſe bred here. Theſe

Motives weigh enough with them to Buy many of thoſe *Canary*-Birds; but in this particular they are like thoſe the Scripture ſpeaks of, where it ſays, they have ſow'd much and reap'd little; for of a Dozen they Buy, they can ſcarce ſhow two alive ſix Months after.

This is the firſt Reaſon which diſcourages Men who have long been acquainted with *Canary*-Birds, from following their Example; for ſay they, the *Canary*-Birds the *Germans* bring, changing their Climate and being Fatigu'd with coming ſo far, and many of them in little Cages, fall Sick ſoon after they arrive, and no Medicines can recover them; and this may be call'd the Country Diſeaſe; for had they been left in their own Country, they had not Dy'd, as they do here daily; for where one Lives ſix Dye.

The ſecond Reaſon they alledge is, that thoſe *Canary*-Birds have been bred up with other ſorts of Food than what we give them. When their uſual Food is chang'd, for want of knowing what is proper for them, they cannot for the moſt part be enur'd to it, and that it is that occaſions their Death. The *Germans* do not care to tell what Food is Natural to them, becauſe dealing ingenuouſly would not be to their Advantage, for they

they would ſell the fewer the following Years, great Numbers ſurviving, which being coupled would Multipy ſo faſt, that in a ſhort Time there would be no Vent for their Birds, the City being Stor'd with them. However they were not altogether ſo Cunning, in bringing along with them the firſt Years ſo many Hens, and having been too Covetous of Selling all their Cocks and Hens at their firſt coming hither, they now make little or nothing of it; becauſe abundance of Perſons have apply'd themſelves to make the Cocks and Hens they have ſav'd, Sit; and many in that great Number having prov'd ſucceſsful, they now Sell to others, and hence it will come to paſs, that in a few Years finer *Canary Birds* being to be had in this City, and as reaſonable as thoſe the *Germans* bring, People will not wait their coming, as they now do. But, if notwithſtanding all I have ſaid, any Man will ſtill Buy *Canary-Birds* of the *Germans*, he muſt uſe the following Precautions.

Firſt, he muſt Buy them in Autumn; I am ſenſible that he muſt then run the Hazard of their Moulting; but then, thoſe Birds which ſurvive, will be ſtronger and better ſettled, in order to put them to Breed, than thoſe that are Bought in the

Spring. Having thus out-liv'd all the Winter, they will be proof againſt the Change of Air; and being us'd to our Climate, there will be Reaſon to expect ſome Breed from them, rather than from thoſe in the Spring, which have ſcarce had time to reſt after their Journey, before it is time to Couple them in order to Sit. If you happen to Buy any in the Spring, and deſire to ſave them, do not make them Sit till the next Year.

The *2d* Precaution is, to cover the Cage into which you put the *Canary*-Birds you have Bought of the *Germans*, for at leaſt a Fortnight. Put them into a very cloſe Place, as is uſually done with Birds taken in Nets, becauſe they have been cover'd all the while they Travell'd. If you ſet them at once into the full Light, it may occaſion many ill Accidents too long to mention here, and particularly, battering themſelves, as being too wild.

You muſt alſo continue ſome time giving them nouriſhing Food, and ſuch as will warm them, as Hempſeed, Canary-ſeed, hard Egg cut ſmall with ſome of the ſoft of Bread. Put alſo a little common Sugar into their Water; for the *Germans* during all their Journey, give them all ſorts of hot Food, that they may

the

the better endure the Fatigue of Travelling; not valuing if moſt of them Dye ſoon after their Arrival, their Bowels being in a manner Burnt out. Thus you may plainly perceive, that moſt of them Dye by the ill effect the Change of Food has on their Conſtitution; for, if you give the *Canary-Birds* Bought of the *Germans*, nothing but Rape-ſeed, as many here do, they will pine away by degrees and Dye, without your underſtanding the Reaſon of it, and therefore they muſt be us'd by little and little, to the Food uſually given them here.

To conclude, the laſt Precaution to be us'd is, not to go for ſome days after the *Germans* arrive, to buy their *Canary-Birds*; becauſe the two firſt Weeks after their Arrival, great Numbers of them Dye daily, of which they make no mention. Let the Dealers in Birds, who Buy many and Sell them again the ſame day, or the next, without regarding how ſoon after they Dye, go Buy them thoſe firſt days. It is more likely that they will live when they have reſted here about three Weeks, than if you take them the firſt days after their Arrival.

CHAP.

CHAP. XXII.

How advantageous it is to Breed up Canary-Birds *by Hand; and for what Reaſons the young ones of the Firſt and Second Sittings are to be preferr'd before the laſt.*

MAny who have long been acquainted with keeping of *Canary-Birds*, may as much as they pleaſe, cry up thoſe which have been rear'd by the Cock and Hen; for my part I affirm, with many others, that thoſe which are brought up by Hand, eſpecially when they have been Fed and look'd after, as is ſet down in the 8*th* and 9*th* Chapters, far exceed the others in Strength and Vigour.

In the firſt place, it happens that *Canary-Birds* rear'd by the Cock and Hen decline, either becauſe the ſaid Cocks and Hens are Sick, and do but half feed their Little Ones, or elſe are not able to perform it, having 5 or 6 to feed at once; which is the reaſon that in ſo great a Brood

Brood they often neglect ſome of them, which for want of ſufficient Food, Langniſh and Dye in a few days.

2*dly*, The Cocks and Hens are much eas'd, and do not ſpend themſelves ſo much, when the Little Ones are taken from them after 10 or 12 days, which makes them longer Liv'd than thoſe that every time they Breed are left to rear their Little Ones quite out: In fine, the Young Ones brought up by Hand, are much more Familiar than any that are rear'd by the Cock and Hen.

It has alſo been obſerv'd, that fewer of thoſe brought up by Hand Dye in Moulting than of the others.

Beſides, it gains one Breed of each Couple of *Canary* Birds; for four Sittings may be expected, without ſpending them, during the four Months they are in Huts; becauſe they Sit on their Eggs 14 days, which with 12 more before the Little Ones are taken away, make 26, and adding four days to Lay again, the whole amounts to 30; and tho' it ſhould extend to 35 days, they may ſtill Sit four times in four Months and a half; and after all that, will ſtill be in a Condition to do the ſame the next Year; whereas, when they are left to bring up their Little Ones quite out, when they come to the 3*d* Sitting

ting, it is requiſite to take them out of the Hut, becauſe they are beginning to Moult; and they are ſo much ſpent, that very often the Hens are fit for nothing the next Year.

I muſt inform you by the by, that it is better to Couple *Canary*-Birds early in the Year, eſpecially when you have the Riſing Sun to ſet them in and a clear Air, than to put it off too long. I know two ill Accidents may attend their Coupling too ſoon. The firſt is, when any little Froſt happens at the time when the Hen is ready to Lay; for her Pores being then all clos'd, it happens that ſhe cannot Lay her Egg, and Dyes, unleſs ſpeedily reliev'd.

The 2*d* is the Little Ones being Hatch'd in cold Weather, and then they are in much danger of not thriving.

When theſe croſs Accidents happen, and you have put your *Canary-Birds* into their Huts; you muſt keep all the Windows cloſe ſhut, and keep a Fire in the Place where they are, as long as that Weather laſts, and if there is any likelyhood of its Continuance, you may take your Birds out of the Huts for a few days, and put them aſunder into little Cages. If any one of the Hens has Laid, the Eggs muſt not be given her to Sit on, till the Weather alters.

On

On the other Hand, if you delay Coupling your *Canary-Birds* too long, for fear of ſuch ill Weather, which does not frequently happen. I ſay, if you defer putting of them together too long, you will be oblig'd to part your Pair of *Canary-Birds* before the third Sitting, becauſe of the too great Heat of the Seaſon, which makes them come to Moulting, and then there is no more to be expected from them that Year.

There being Reaſons *pro and con* for all things in this World, every Man, according to what has been ſaid, may take his Choice, of running the Hazards he ſhall think fit, of what may be expected upon theſe Occaſions.

It is ſaid, that the Firſt and Second Breeds are the beſt; but the Reaſons for the ſame have not been yet aſſign'd.

For my own part, I find two principal; the firſt is, that the firſt and ſecond Broods are always better Fed than the laſt; becauſe the old Cock and Hen not being as yet tir'd, ſpare no Pains to Feed their Little Ones; whereas at the *3d* and *4th* Broods, being quite tir'd out with following the ſame Employment ſo long, they are quite ſpent, and very often take ſo little Care of their Young Ones, giving them but very little Food, that they fall

Sick

Sick and Dye before they can be taken from them.

I may ſay, that thoſe who bring up the little *Canary-Birds* by Hand, are much like the Cocks and Hens themſelves; for they are full of Care to bring up and feed the firſt and ſecond Broods in due Time and Seaſon; but when they come to the *3d* and *4th* Broods, they reſemble the *Canary-Birds*, and grow weary of doing the ſame thing continually; and refuſing to be any longer ty'd to Hours, they feed the Little Ones ſometimes too ſoon, and ſometimes too late; and being ſo irregularly look'd after, the Little Birds contract an ill Habit of Body, and Dye of the firſt Diſtemper they fall into, which is commonly their Moulting.

The laſt reaſon there is for preferring the firſt Broods before the latter, is, that the *Canary-Birds* coming into the World early in the Year, that is, in *April* or *May*, they Moult either in *July* or *Auguſt* at the lateſt, being the moſt favourable time for that Diſtemper, becauſe the Weather being then very hot, all the Pores are open, and the Feathers of thoſe little Creatures drop off, and others come out faſter and with more eaſe than at any other time. On the other hand the Little Birds that are Hatch'd late in the Year, as are thoſe of

of the 3*d* and of the laſt Broods, which come in *July* and *Auguſt*, cannot Moult before the middle of Autumn, and ſometimes the beginning of Winter, when the Pores are ſhut, and conſequently they have much Difficulty in Moulting, and very often all the Remedies apply'd to them, to help Nature prove ineffectual; ſo that the Cold hindring their new Feathers from coming out, nothing is to be expected but Death.

Be not of the Opinion of thoſe, who ſay, that ſeveral *Canary-Birds* are not to be put together into one Cage; for if you were almoſt every day to clean as many Cages as you have *Canary Birds*, the trouble would overballance the Pleaſure. You may therefore put two Birds into a large Cage. If they be Hens, you may put in four, becauſe they live more peaceably together than the Cocks. You may put eight into a large Hut and into a Volery in Proportion to its bigneſs. If there happens to be an unlucky Cock among them, that pulls the Feathers off the others, as ſometimes happens, take him out from among them and put him into a Cage by himſelf; but they muſt not be ſeparated on account of any little Accidental Scuffles that happen among them, when they go no farther.

CHAP.

CHAP. XXIII.

Of the common Prices Canary-Birds *are now ſold for at* Paris.

THere are very many Perſons of all Ages and Conditions in this City, who do not yet keep *Canary*-Birds, and yet would be willing to have One or Two, to Divert them after their uſual Affairs are over, with their ſweet Notes; but moſt of thoſe Perſons ſtill remembring the Price that *Canary*-Birds bore ten Years ago, without enquiring what they are now worth, believe it is ſtill the ſame. Thus the Ignorance of ſome, and the Covetouſneſs of others, are the cauſe that many go no farther than to Wiſh for *Canary*-Birds, without attempting to Buy them; my Deſign is to undeceive thoſe People, by writing this Chapter for their Sakes, wherein I will ſet down the common Prices *Canary*-Birds now bear. To obſerve ſome order, I will begin with the Prices of the moſt common *Canary*-Birds, and conclude with thoſe that

that are by curious Perſons reckoned the moſt beautiful and deareſt.

A Common Grey *Canary*-Bird 3 Livres, 10 Sols.

A rough footed, or white Tail'd *Canary*-Bird 5 Livres.

An Aſh *Canary*-Bird, rough footed, or white Tail'd, 5 *l.* 10 *s.*

A Common Yellow *Canary*-Bird, 4 *l.*

A Yellow *Canary*-Bird, rough footed, or with a white Tail, 6 *l.*

A Common Mottled *Canary*-Bird, 4 *l.*

A Motled *Canary*-Bird of the Copple-Crown Breed, 5 *l.* 10 *s.*

A Common Buff Colour *Canary*-Bird, 4 *l.*

A Buff Colour *Canary*-Bird with a caſt of Gold Colour, 5 *l.* 10 *s.*

A Common Copple-Crown *Canary*-Bird, 6 *l.*

A *Canary*-Bird with an Aſh Colour Copple-Crown, 7 *l.*

A *Canary*-Bird with a Black Copple-Crown, 10 *l.*

A *Canary*-Bird with a regular black Copple-Crown, 20 *l.*

A Common Lemmon Colour *Canary*-Bird, 15 *l.*

A Lemmon Colour *Canary*-Bird with a black regular Copple-Crown, 25 *l.*

All white *Canary*-Birds with red Eyes are ſo little valu'd, at this time eſpecially, when

when there is Plenty of others, that I have not thought fit to ſpeak of them, according to their ſeveral degrees of Beauty, the fineſt of them not exceeding the Value of 4 *l.*

The Price of *Canary*-Birds here ſet down, may vary upon two ſeveral Occaſions. The firſt is, when thoſe ſame Birds are Bought ſome days after they are Hatch'd, as many do, to breed them up by Hand; then at leaſt the third part of the Price is to be abated, in every ſort of what is here ſet down. For inſtance, a *Canary*-Bird that coſts 15 Livres, when he can Feed himſelf, is worth but 10 Livres, if taken when he is but 10 or 12 days old.

The Price in like manner advances one third beyond what has been ſet down, when a *Canary*-Bird is Bought after he is paſs'd all the Danger of his firſt Moulting, as in *March*, the time when he is fit to be put into a Hut. So a *Canary*-Bird of 15 Livres Price in *October*, will coſt 20 Livres in *March* the next Year, and the like of all others.

That nothing may be omitted, I muſt take Notice, that there are *Canary*-Birds which Sell above the Price here ſet down: Sometimes one or two black Feathers in the Tail of a Copple-Crown, or any other particular marks like Stars, anſwering uniformly

formly about his Body, will raiſe him to double the Price of the others. I will not here ſet down the Price of that ſort of *Canary*-Bird, which is not common, and whoſe Value generally depends on the Will of the Perſon that is to Sell him to one that wants no Money, and is eager to Buy him. We frequently ſee curious Perſons, who are well to paſs in the World, and make nothing to give 3 or 400 Livres for a Couple of *Canary-Birds* they fancy.

I will not be particular as to the Price of Mongrel *Canary Birds*: Some of them are not worth ſo much as the natural *Canary-Birds*; but there are alſo others, whom Nature has form'd ſo Beautiful and regular, as if they had been Drawn with a Pencil. The Price of theſe is conſiderable, and ſuch being very rare, he who has them, often meets with curious Perſons who give him whatſoever he asks for them. As for inſtance, three little Mongrel *Canary-Birds* were ſome time ſince Sold here to a Curious Stranger for 500 Livres.

Nor will I ſpend time upon the Value of *Canary-Birds* Eggs; becauſe the Selling of them begins to grow out of Date, tho' it was much us'd ſome Years ago. Thoſe who firſt began to breed *Canary-Birds* in this City, made what they would of them, for they Sold the very Eggs at conſiderable Rates.

Rates. Some have been Bought for 10 Crowns a Piece, and very often they were Addle, or the Little One dead in the Shell. Now Money is grown ſomewhat ſcarcer, and *Canary-Birds* more plentiful, there are no ſuch extravagant curious Perſons.

Beſides, it is common to be Cheated in Buying of *Canary*-Birds Eggs, through the Diſhoneſty of the Seller, as hapned to a Friend of mine laſt Year, who Bought *Canary*-Birds Eggs of a Man, that through Ignorance had Coupled two Hens together, whoſe Eggs can never be good for any thing, as is eaſy for any one to judge, having no Cock with them. And that Man, who Values himſelf ſtill upon having a nice Conſcience, made no Scruple of keeping the Money he had receiv'd; tho' a few days after he was convinc'd of his Ignorance, in Coupling one Hen with another, inſtead of a Cock, and very well knew that he who had bought the Eggs of him, hazarded his Money, upon the Suppoſition that thoſe Eggs came of a Hen that had been Coupled with a Cock, as they are uſually Pair'd.

There are alſo ſome Perſons ſo Deceitful, as to make you believe, that the Eggs you deſign to Buy of them, and which they ſhow you in a Neſt under a Hen Sitting on them, are newly lay'd under

der her, tho' they have been Sate on 7 or 8 days, and conſequently unlikely ever to prove good. This perhaps makes you have a Mind to Buy them, eſpecially conſidering the extraordinary Beauty of the 2 *Canary*-Birds they come from, and very often they are the Eggs of another Pair of very Common *Canary*-Birds. Then whatſoever you Bid, the Sharper lets you have them, pretending it is to oblige you. Thus impoſing upon your Credulity, he perfectly Cheats you; and if you afterwards come to complain that his Eggs prov'd Naught, he will anſwer, it is Pity, and he is very Sorry for it; but that ſuch an Accident may happen to any Man, and ſo will endeavour to ſatisfy you with fine Words.

I have thought my ſelf oblig'd to take Notice hereof for two Reaſons.

The firſt, to diſcourage ſeveral curious Perſons, who are not well Vers'd in this Affair, from Buying Eggs after this manner at Random, their Money being for the moſt part thrown away; becauſe there are every where People ready to impoſe upon their Credulity, and to treat them as has been obſerv'd above; and they being thus fore-warn'd, will be the more upon their Guard, being firſt convinc'd of the Probity of thoſe from whom they would

Buy

Buy their Eggs; and consequently will not grow weary of the innocent Diversion of *Canary*-Birds, when they see all they undertake succeed.

2*dly*, Because curious Persons being thus warn'd not to Buy *Canary*-Birds Eggs of all Persons without Distinction, they will avoid being the innocent Cause of the Fault committed by those who burden their own Consciences by wronging them of their Money.

It may perhaps be urg'd, that the Prices here set down by me, are of no Use, because the scarcity of Money hinders the Sale, and occasions their going now at moderate Rates. To this I answer, that there are now so very many curious Persons in this City who Breed *Canary*-Birds, that when Mony shall become more plentiful, the *Canary*-Birds will be so in like manner, and that among the many curious Persons who will have Young *Canary*-Birds, there will always be several who will Sell them at an easy Rate, to dispose of the more, and to continue the reasonable Price I have here set down.

I would advise the Curious, who have not had long Experience in this Affair, not to Buy Young *Canary*-Birds for Breeders; because it often happens that such Persons being unskilful in the Business, and the Birds

Birds too Young, they make nothing of it the first Year.

For my own part, when I want a Pair of *Canary*-Birds, I find that a Cock three Years old, and a good Hen of two, fit me better than two *Canary*-Birds Hatch'd within the Year, whose tender Youth is subject to many unlucky Accidents, too long to be taken Notice of here.

It is also to be observ'd, that when you Buy a Copple Crown *Canary*-Bird, tho' he be never so well mark'd, his Marks will wear off every Year at Moulting time, so that in Process of time he will turn quite White, without any Spots or Marks at all. For this reason curious Persons should be cautious how they give a great Price for a *Canary*-Bird curiously mark'd, since that Beauty wears off at every Moulting, and consequently his Value declines. I know there are some that retain their Spots long, and increase the Number of them; but such *Canary*-Birds are very rare.

As for the Charge of keeping a *Canary-Bird* a Year, it is Cheaper buying in his whole Provision at once, than by small Measures; and thus every Bird that does not Breed will cost 20 Sols a Year, and if it Breeds, reck'ning the hard Eggs, Simnels, Biskets, *&c.* which must be allow'd them at that time, the Expence will

amount to about 30 Sols a Year. I know there muſt be ſome Management in the Diſtribution of their Seeds and other Food, for otherwiſe they ſpoil much more than they eat. Thus you ſee it is Cheaper keeping of a good *Canary-Bird* a Year, than a pittiful Chaffinch.

CHAP. XXIV.

The Names, Qualities, and Prices of ſeveral ſorts of Seeds commonly us'd to Feed Canary-Birds.

I Think it will not be improper here, in a few Words, to ſet down the Names and Qualities of all the Seeds curious Perſons uſe in Feeding of their *Canary-Birds*; and for obſerving of ſome Method herein I will begin with thoſe Seeds which are moſt neceſſary for them, and will afterwards proceed to thoſe they may live without.

The Names of Seeds proper for Canary-Birds.

Rape ſeed.

Millet.

Millet.
Hempſeed.
Canary-ſeed.
Pink-ſeed.
Lettice ſeed.
Silverweed, or Tanſy-ſeed.
Plantan-ſeed.

Rape-ſeed is a very ſmall round Seed; coming from a Plant of the ſame Name. I name it firſt, becauſe it is the moſt neceſſary Seed for Feeding our *Canary-Birds*, and they may live with this alone, tho' they have none of the others, as has been ſaid before. There are ſeveral ſorts of it; one of them is bigger and blacker than the true Rape-ſeed, and commonly kills all the *Canary-Birds* it is given to, by reaſon of its Bitterneſs and other ill Qualities. The beſt is that which is ſmaller than this bad ſort I have laſt ſpoken of. It is not quite Black, but inclines a little to Purple, is very ſweet, and has none of the Bitterneſs of the other ſorts; it is call'd *French* Rape-ſeed, that is the beſt that can be given to Birds. It has a Nouriſhing and Cooling Quality at the ſame time; ſo that a Bird which lives altogether upon this Seed, is not apt to grow ſo Fat as thoſe that eat much of the others above mention'd.

When it is too old, as of 3 or 4 Years, it generally has no more Scent than Duſt, nor ſcarce any Taſte, and therefore does not ſo well Nouriſh the Birds that eat of it. On the other Hand, when it is too new, tho' never ſo good, it Surfeits them. It muſt be at leaſt 6 Months Old before you give it to your *Canary Birds*, and to prevent being Cheated, you muſt Lay in a Years Proviſion before *March*: So that if it happens to be new, it will be at leaſt 8 or 9 Months Old, ſo that it cannot be prejudicial to your Birds.

To be provided with Seed for a Year, without being oblig'd to Buy again within the time, you need only take 9 or 10 Litrons, that is ſomething more than ſo many Pints for every *Canary-Bird* you deſign to keep, and you will find that enough for the Year.

Millet is a ſort of ſmall white Grain, round, and at leaſt twice as big as the Rape-ſeed; the whiteſt is the beſt. There is a yellow ſort which is only good for Poultry. The beſt Millet is that of the Province of *Anjou*, on the River *Loire* in *France*. It is ſweeter and pleaſanter than the Rape ſeed. Its Qualities are to Nouriſh, to Warm and to Fatten conſiderably, and therefore curious Perſons muſt take heed not to give their *Cana-*

ry-

ry-Birds too much of it; nay ſometimes they muſt be made to Faſt, for the Reaſons mention'd in this Treatiſe. This Millet ſerves for ſeveral other uſes, which is not to our Purpoſe to take Notice of.

The Hempſeed is the Seed of the Plant of the ſame Name. It is twice as big as the Millet, and Grey. The beſt is the midling ſize, and of a bright Grey. Its Quality is to Nouriſh, Fatten and Heat much more than the Millet laſt ſpoken of; and therefore very little of it is to be given to *Canary-Birds*, unleſs it be in the ſharp Winter Seaſon, at which time it is good for them. The beſt ſort has ſomewhat of the Taſte of a ſmall Nut, and therefore the *Canary-Birds* are very fond of it.

The Canary-ſeed is a yellowiſh Grain, not ſo thick as the Millet, but longer, pointed at both Ends. Its Quality is to Fatten and Warm *Canary-Birds*. It has almoſt the ſame Taſte as the Millet. Many curious Perſons never give their *Canary-Birds* any of it, pretending that it Burns their Bowels; but it can do them no harm, provided they are not continually us'd to it, and have only a little Pinch given them ſometimes.

The beſt Pink-ſeed comes from *Straſ-*

burg, as has been found by Experience, that which grows about *Paris* looſing its Taſte. It Bloſſoms about *May* and *June*. Its Quality is aſtringent, and therefore it is given to *Canary-Birds* that are Looſe; the Taſte of it is ſweetiſh. Take heed when you buy this Seed, that they do not inſtead of it give you Poppy-ſeed, which is very like it, and will infallibly kill your *Canary-Birds*; all the difference between them is, that the Poppy-ſeed is Blackiſh, and the other Grey.

Lettice Seed is well known, as well as the Lettice, it is flat, long, and of a bright Grey. Its Quality is cooling, wherefore it is now and then given to *Canary*-Birds to Purge them. The freſheſt is the beſt.

The Silverweed is a Plant whoſe Leaves are like thoſe of Coriander, but ſomewhat more Oily, and the Stem is like that of Rue. It is call'd Silverweed becauſe the Leaf is white, but the Seed is red and very ſmall. In *Latin* it is called *Thaliſtrum*. Its Quality is to bind the *Canary-Birds* that can Eat it; which many of them will not. It is put to ſeveral uſes by Women, of which I ſhall not ſpeak here.

The Plantan Seed comes from a Plant of the ſame Name, which grows like an Ear of Wheat, is ſmall and black-

iſh

iſh. Its Quality is Nouriſhing and Warming, but it is very ſeldom given to *Canary-Birds*.

The Price of each ſort of Seed cannot be poſitively determin'd; becauſe it alters every Year, according to the Plenty or Scarcity of it. What I ſhall ſet down here, is rather to give curious Perſons ſome Notion of the Value of the ſeveral Seeds, without their depending on it, and abſolutely to fix it.

This being a dear Year, the Price I ſhall ſet down will rather be in Favour of the Seller than of the Buyer; becauſe there is more reaſon to expect it will fall than riſe.

A Boiſſeau, which is about a Peck and a Half *Engliſh*, or 20 Pounds Weight, 45 Sols.

A Boiſſeau of Millet, 30 Sols.

A Boiſſeau of Hemp Seed, 22 Sols.

A Litron, being ſomewhat above a Pint Engliſh, 3 Sols 6 Deniers.

A Litron of Pink Seed, 12 Sols.

A Litron of Lettice Seed, 9 Sols.

A Litron of Silverweed Seed, 28 Sols.

A Litron of Plantan Seed, 15 Sols.

The three firſt ſorts of Seeds I have nam'd, *viz*. Rape Seed, Millet and Hemp Seed, muſt be very well fann'd and cleans'd before they are us'd; becauſe they are ge-

nerally very foul, and full of little Stones and Duſt. It may perhaps be ask'd, why I ſpeak of Boiſſeaus, or Pecks, in mentioning the 3 firſt, and only of Litrons or Pints to the other 5. To this I anſwer, that thoſe 3 firſt ſorts of Seeds, are abſolutely neceſſary for them, eſpecially the 2 firſt of them, ſo that they may Live very well without the others, which are not proper for them, otherwiſe than to recover their Stomach, when they have loſt it, or to help them in ſome Diſtempers I have fully ſpoke of in this Treatiſe. Thoſe three ſorts of Seeds are to *Canary-Birds*, as Bread, Wine and Fleſh are to Men; for a Man who has thoſe three ſorts of Suſtenance, may live long and in Health, without the help of any others, which are call'd the Dainties of this Life, and which often rather impair than preſerve Health, eſpecially when they are become habitual. By what I have ſaid you may perceive, that a Litron, or Pint of the laſt five ſorts of Seeds will ſerve you as long as a Boiſſeau, or Peck of the three firſt, being given to the Birds, only in caſes of abſolute Neceſſity. There are alſo many curious Perſons, who never make uſe of all the ſorts of Seeds I have mention'd; which did not however divert me from ſetting them down, for the Satisfaction

tisfaction of thoſe who do, or may hereafter uſe them. There are ſtill ſeveral other ſorts of Seeds given to *Canary-Birds*; but in regard that they live no longer than others that have them not, I have not thought fit to put the Reader to the Charge, or Burden his Memory with them, ſince he may do very well without them.

Rape Seed, Millet, Hemp Seed and Canary Seed, are generally ſold in the Common Seed Shops; every one muſt make his Price when he underſtands the Seed, for I have ſeen ſome above 10 Sols dearer in the Boiſſeau than others, tho' the ſame ſorts of Seeds. But as for the Pink, Lettice, Silverweed and Plantan Seeds, they will be found better and cheaper among the Flower Seed Men.

CHAP. XXV.

The use to be made of Canary-Birds, *and how long they may live, when well manag'd.*

SEveral who had newly apply'd themselves to the Curiosity of keeping *Canary-Birds*, have taken taken a Distaste to it the very first Year; because those who Sold them the Old Ones, which they put to Breed, had made them expect to have 15 or 16 Little Ones from each Pair; and having thus unreasonably flatter'd themselves with the Hopes of so great a Number, they have been quite discourag'd, finding scarce a third Part of what was promis'd them. He who expects but a small Number of Little Ones from each Pair, is agreeably surpriz'd, when there are more than he expected; and on the contrary, he is quite dejected, who finds fewer than he promis'd himself. We may indeed expect 15 or 16 Eggs from each Pair of *Canary-Birds*, and sometimes they Lay more; but to avoid being disappointed,

appointed, we are not generally to think that above one third of them will come to good, as well becauſe of the Addle Eggs there are in that Number, as becauſe ſome of the Little Ones do not come to good.

Thus to have *Canary-Birds* Eggs is ſomething of a Beginning; if they prove good they afford hopes; when Hatch'd there is ſome Pleaſure; and if the Young Ones out-live their Moulting, that Crowns the Work. I know there are ſome good Kinds which bring Conſiderable Breeds; but to avoid miſtaking our reckoning, we ought to be ſatisfy'd, if taking one with another we have ſix *Canary-Birds* from every Pair alive after the firſt Moulting. I ſay taking one with another, becauſe among ſeveral Couples put up to Breed, ſome Multiply very much, to ſupply the defect of other Couples, which make nothing of it all the Year, or but little at beſt, as I have obſerv'd in the 15*th* Chapter.

There are two ſorts of curious Perſons. The firſt are thoſe, who have very many Couples of *Canary-Birds*, which they regularly put together to Breed every Year, making a ſort of Revenue of the Little Ones. Theſe Perſons uſe the old *Latin* Proverb, *Omne tulit punctum*.

Etum qui miſcuit utile dulci. That is, they know how to make a Profit of their Pleaſure. In ſhort, beſides the Pleaſure it is to them, to have ſuch Numerous Broods of fine Birds, they make a conſiderable Yearly Advantage by Selling ſo many.

There were ſome Perſons, even of Note, who drove an open Trade with them, the firſt Years after they came to this City; I believe it was not ſo much for the Profit they made of them, as for the Reputation of being ſucceſsful in that new ſort of Pleaſure. But ſince many have had the ſame Succeſs as they, and by that means the *Canary-Birds* are become more plentiful, they have left off that ſmall Trade, to make Room for very many, inferiour to them in Birth, who have apply'd themſelves to it.

The ſecond ſort of curious Perſons are thoſe, whoſe ſmall Number of *Canary-Birds* afford them no other Proſpect, but the diverting of themſelves ſome Moments of the Day, after having ſpent the greater part of it in more ſolid and profitable Affairs than the devoting of themſelves to *Canary-Birds*. There is no approving of their Practice, who the more *Canary-Birds* they have,

have, the more they covet, and the Number whereof often cauſes them to loſe the beſt Part of the Year, by reaſon of the continual care they muſt take of them. That ought to be left to thoſe who Deal in them, whoſe Buſineſs it is to Breed and Sell all ſorts of Birds. I would therefore adviſe any one, who only keeps them for his Pleaſure, never to keep above 5 or 6 Pairs of *Canary-Birds*; viz. 3 Pairs of Copple-Crowns, and the others plain Greys, or Greys with white Tails, to be as it were Nurſes, in Caſe of Neceſſity, to thoſe that come from the Copple-Crowns. The Increaſe will be ſufficient to ſerve himſelf, and to oblige ſome Friends. The continual Care and Trouble, which for at leaſt one third part of the Year, attends a great Number of Sitting *Canary-Birds*, far out-ballances the Pleaſure and Satisfaction they can afford, eſpecially if a Man has no other on whom he can repoſe that Truſt.

I do not, however blame thoſe, who every Year Sell a ſmall Number of their Little Ones among their Acquaintance, to avoid increaſing the Number of Pairs they deſign to make Sit the next Year for their Diverſion; the little Money they

they make of them, only ſerving to defray the Charge of the Birds they keep for their own Satisfaction. It would be wrong, for any ignorant or malicious Perſon, to call them Traders in *Canary-Birds*, ſince it plainly appears by the Poſts or Places they are in, that their *Canary-Birds* are not their conſtant Employment, nor afford them any ſettled Income, but only an agreeable Paſtime; and that the little Money they make, by Selling, from time to time, what they have to ſpare, only ſerves to maintain their Volery; and as we cannot call a Citizen a Wine Merchant or Vintner, for Selling the overplus of Wine of his own Growth, after ſerving his Family, ſince we daily ſee many Perſons of Condition, ſell theirs, either by Wholeſale or Retail, without being look'd upon as Vintners, as having other Places or Employments, which diſtinguiſh and raiſe them above that Employment; in like manner our curious Perſons, may as long as they pleaſe, Sell what *Canary-Birds* they have to ſpare, after the Example of ſeveral Perſons of Diſtinction, either on Account of their having ſome extraordinary Beautiful, or to employ the Money they get to Defray the Charge of their innocent Diverſion,

Diverſion, without being liable to be call'd Dealers in Birds.

Only thoſe ought to be call'd Dealers in Birds, who keep Publick Shops, and who are allow'd as Maſters in their Profeſſion, and value themſelves upon it; or thoſe, who having no other Income but what their *Canary-Birds* afford them, admit of all People indifferently to their Chambers, to ſell them their Birds for Better or Worſe.

He who is reſolv'd to venture upon having a Brood of *Canary-Birds*, if he will be ſure to ſucceed, muſt have more than one Pair; for if the Cock or the Hen of that Pair ſhould happen to fall Sick, you are quite ſpoil'd, eſpecially when they have either Eggs, or Little Ones, as not knowing what to do to preſerve the Brood; but when you have ſeveral Pairs, there is commonly ſome Hen that has been Sitting or Feeding much about the ſame time, and to her you give the Eggs, or the Little Ones of the other that is Sick, and by that means you ſave that which muſt have been loſt if you had but one Pair of *Canary-Birds*. When you have any Cock, or Hen, over and above what you put up to Breed, be ſure to put it into another Room diſtinct from the reſt,

reſt, ſo that they may not hear them Sing, otherwiſe it may happen, that your *Canary Bird* hearing the others that are in their Huts, may grow hot in love, and will Dye of that Diſtemper in a few days, for want of being Pair'd.

If you would proceed orderly, without burdening your Memory, which ought to be better employ'd than on the Thoughts of *Canary-Birds*, you muſt every Year make a little white Paper Book, to ſet down the preciſe day you gave the Hens their Eggs to Sit on; the day they are to Hatch, if good: I ſpeak to thoſe who have many Pairs of *Canary-Birds*; and by means of this eaſy Method, you will never be dubious of the day your Little Ones are to come into the World; and you will pleaſure yourſelf and your Friends, reading from time to time, the Number of Broods, and of Eggs you had of each Pair; how many have prov'd Addle, how many have Hatch'd, how many have Dy'd ſoon after; and in fine the exact Age of thoſe you have from each Pair. Leave a white Leaf at certain Diſtances, to ſet down all the Remarks you make ſucceſſively, which is the more pleaſant, becauſe it does not charge

charge the Memory, there being no more requir'd than the Booking down of thoſe Particulars as they occur. This Method is abſolutely neceſſary, in order to know the fix'd day on which the little Birds are to be Hatch'd, becauſe the miſtaking of a day ſometimes occaſions the loſs of a whole Brood, by failing thereby to put into their Huts what is uſual to be given them the day before they Hatch, whereof I have ſpoken at large in the *7th* Chapter.

As for the time that *Canary-Birds* live, I cannot aſcertain it, for as I have ſaid, that the *Canary-Birds* differ in Conſtitution, it may be thence concluded, that they live longer or ſhorter, according to the Strength of their Conſtitution. But to be ſomewhat more particular; a Cock *Canary-Bird* that is put up to Breed every Year, ſeldom lives above 10 Years, and generally the *7th* Year is not fit to be put up to Breed, for very often he will leave the Hen to Lay Addle Eggs.

A Hen that Sits every Year, ſeldom goes beyond ſix or ſeven Years, or if ſhe does, it is becauſe ſhe has been well manag'd, or that ſhe is, as has been

reſt, ſo that they may not hear them Sing, otherwiſe it may happen, that your *Canary Bird* hearing the others that are in their Huts, may grow hot in love, and will Dye of that Diſtemper in a few days, for want of being Pair'd.

If you would proceed orderly, without burdening your Memory, which ought to be better employ'd than on the Thoughts of *Canary-Birds*, you muſt every Year make a little white Paper Book, to ſet down the preciſe day you gave the Hens their Eggs to Sit on; the day they are to Hatch, if good: I ſpeak to thoſe who have many Pairs of *Canary-Birds*; and by means of this eaſy Method, you will never be dubious of the day your Little Ones are to come into the World; and you will pleaſure yourſelf and your Friends, reading from time to time, the Number of Broods, and of Eggs you had of each Pair; how many have prov'd Addle, how many have Hatch'd, how many have Dy'd ſoon after; and in fine the exact Age of thoſe you have from each Pair. Leave a white Leaf at certain Diſtances, to ſet down all the Remarks you make ſucceſſively, which is the more pleaſant, becauſe it does not charge

charge the Memory, there being no more requir'd than the Booking down of thoſe Particulars as they occur. This Method is abſolutely neceſſary, in order to know the fix'd day on which the little Birds are to be Hatch'd, becauſe the miſtaking of a day ſometimes occaſions the loſs of a whole Brood, by failing thereby to put into their Huts what is uſual to be given them the day before they Hatch, whereof I have ſpoken at large in the *7th* Chapter.

As for the time that *Canary Birds* live, I cannot aſcertain it, for as I have ſaid, that the *Canary-Birds* differ in Conſtitution, it may be thence concluded, that they live longer or ſhorter, according to the Strength of their Conſtitution. But to be ſomewhat more particular; a Cock *Canary-Bird* that is put up to Breed every Year, ſeldom lives above 10 Years, and generally the *7th* Year is not fit to be put up to Breed, for very often he will leave the Hen to Lay Addle Eggs.

A Hen that Sits every Year, ſeldom goes beyond ſix or ſeven Years, or if ſhe does, it is becauſe ſhe has been well manag'd, or that ſhe is, as has been

been ſaid, of an extraordinary ſtrong Conſtitution.

Of all ſorts of *Canary-Birds* the Grey live longeſt, being much ſtronger than the Copple Crown'd, Lemmon, *&c.*

A *Canary-Bird* of a good Conſtitution, and that has been well manag'd, that is, never put to Breed, may live 22 Years, but then he is ſubject to many Diſeaſes, as Want of Stomach, Blindneſs, looſing his Claws and Voice, and ſometimes to the Gout; and in that Condition his languiſhing Life, which threatens a ſpeedy and certain Death, is as troubleſom to him, by reaſon of the ſharp Pains he continually endures, as a Mans is to him, when he is arriv'd at a certain uneaſy degree of old Age, at which the only ſovereign Remedy is no other than Death.

But enough of this Subject; tho' I have not yet exhauſted it, yet I am apt to believe I have ſaid enough to increaſe the Number of curious Perſons, who have not ventur'd to give themſelves the innocent and agreeable Diverſion of keeping *Canary-Birds*, for want of underſtanding them; as well in regard

to

to their good Qualities, as to their Faults and Diſeaſes, and the ſeveral Accidents that befall them, during the Courſe of their Life, eſpecially when they are deſign'd to Breed.

In tenui Labor, at tenuis non Gloria.

FINIS.

BOOKS Printed for *Bernard Lintott.*

W*iquefort's* Embaſſador, L. Pr.	1	15	0
——— Ditto Small Paper	1	5	0
Mr. *Popes* Homer, Vol. I. II. III. IV.	5	0	0
——— Ditto Small Paper	2	16	0
——— His Miſcellaneous Works	1	5	0
——— Ditto, Small Paper	0	14	0
Mr. Serjeant *Lutwyche's* Reports, Vol. I. II.	2	18	0
Bohun of the Rights of Boroughs	0	12	0
Baſneages Hiſt. of the *Jews*	1	5	0
Lawrence of Gardening	0	1	0
——— Part II.	0	2	0
Mr. *Pointer's* Chronological Hiſt. 2 Vols.	0	5	0
Continuation the 1*ſt*. Y. of King *George*	0	1	0
——— 2.	0	1	0
——— 3.	0	1	0
Poems by the Earl of *Roc[illegible]* and Lord *Roſcomon*	0	3	6
Poems on ſeveral Occaſions by Mr. *Fenton*	0	3	6
Poems by his Grace of *Buckingham*	0	3	6
Poems entituled *Oxford* and *Camb.* Miſc.	0	5	0
Poems in 4 Vols. 8°.	0	18	0
Poems by the Lady *Chudleigh* 3d Edit.	0	2	0
Poems by the great *Shakeſpear*	0	3	0
By Mr. *Pope* Windſor Foreſt 2 Edit.	0	1	0
By Mr. *Pope* Eſſay on Criticiſm 5 Edit.	0	1	0
By Mr. *Pope* Rape of the Lock 5 Edit.	0	1	0
By Mr. *Pope* Temple of Fame 2 Edit.	0	1	0
By Mr. *Pope* Ode on St. *Cecilia's* Day	0	0	6

BRITISH MUSEUM

By

Books Printed for *Bernard Lintot*.

By Mr. *Gay*.	What d' ye call it, a Farce 2 Edit.	0	1 0
	Art of Walking the Streets 2 Edit.	0	1 0
	Three Hours after Marriage	0	1 6
	Wife of Bath	0	1 0
	Journey to *Exeter*	0	0 6
Plays by the Rt. Honble Ld *Lanſdown*		0	3 6
Plays by Sr. *Richard Steel*		0	3 0
Plays by *Nich. Rowe*, Eſq; 2 Vol.		0	10 0
Plays by Mr *Southern* 2 Vol.		0	5 0
By *N. Rowe*. Eſq;	The Tragedy of *Jane Shore* 3 Edit.	0	1 6
	The Lady *Jane Gray* 2 Edit.	0	1 6
Dennis's Remarks on *Cato*		0	1 0
——— On Mr. *Popes* Eſſay on Criticiſm		0	0 6
——— Eſſay on Publick Spirit		0	0 6
——— On the Writings of *Shakeſpear*		0	1 0
——— Grounds of Criticiſm		0	1 6
——— Liberty Aſſerted, a Tragedy		0	1 6
——— *Appius* and *Virginia*, a Tragedy		0	1 6
Dr. *Kings* Miſcellanies		0	5 0
——— Art of Cookery 2 Edit.		0	1 6
——— Art of Love		0	3 6
——— Uſeful Tranſactions 3 Parts		0	3 0
——— Uſeful Miſcellanies		0	0 6
La Motts Remarks on *Homer*		0	1 0
Roman Catholick Syſtem of Allegiance		0	1 0
Religion of the Wits at *Buttons*		0	1 0
Geddes Tract againſt Popery		0	5 0
Homer by Mad. *Dacier* 5 Vol.		0	15 0
Horace 2 Vol, *Eng.* and *Lat.*		0	10 0
E. of *Lauderdales Virgil* 2 Edit.		0	5 0
Q. Curtius Engliſhed by Mr. *Digby*		0	5 0
C. Nepos Eng.		0	2 0
Trapps Relectiones Poeticæ		0	3 0
Drydens Art of Painting 2 Edit.		0	5 0
Art of getting Pretty Children		0	1 6

C.

C. Gabalais Diverting Hiſtory	0	1	6
Mottos to the Tatler and Spectator	0	1	6
The inviſible Miſtreſs, by Mr. *Cibber*	0	1	0
Muſcipula	0	0	6
Moliere's Comedys 6 Vols. Eng.	0	15	0
Theophraſtus's Characters	0	4	0
Dr. *King's* Demy Gods 2 Edit.	0	2	0
Du Pile of mixing Colours	0	0	6
Cymbalum Mundi	0	1	0
Lives of the Popes	0	5	0
Le Clercs Abridgment of *Clarendon*	0	2	0
Hiſt. of *Formoſa* 2 Edit.	0	5	0
——— of *Holland* 2 Vols.	0	10	0
——— of *Guinea*	0	6	0
——— of *Saracens*, by *Ockley* 1 Vol.	0	5	0
——— Ditto 2 Vol.	0	5	0
Capt *Rogers* Voyage to the South Sea 2 Edit.	0	5	0
Capt. *Cooks* Voyage to Ditto 2 Vols.	0	10	0
Perraults Lives 2 Vols.	0	5	0
Mrs. *Phillips's* Letters	0	3	0
Dialogues of the Nature of the Gods	0	2	0
Kennedy of the Diſeaſes of the Eyes	0	2	0
Johnſons Nouns and Verbs	0	1	0
——— Decerpta ex Ovidij Faſtis	0	1	0
——— Ovids Metamorphoſis	0	1	0
——— Phedrus	0	1	0
Modern Policy	0	0	6
Monthly Catalogues of Books Publiſh'd	0	0	3
Managers Pro and Con	0	0	6
Annotations on the Tatlers	0	2	0
Conduct of the *Iriſh* Purſe	0	0	6
Monthly Amuſements, each	0	1	0
Votes of Parliament 1714, 15, 16, 17			
Report of the Secret Committee	0	3	6
General *Stanhopes* Anſwer to the Report of the Commiſſioners.	0	0	6
Bohuns Inſtitutio Legalis 2 Edit.	0	6	0
Complete Court Keeper 2 Edit.	0	6	0

Books Printed for *Bernard Lintot*.

Court Keepers Companion	0	2	6
Accompliſh'd Conveyancer 3 Vols.	0	18	0
Clerks Remembrancer	0	3	6
Grand Precedent for Conveyancing	0	6	0
Modern Juſtice 2 Edit.	0	5	0
Appendix to the Modern Juſtice	0	1	6
Manwoods Foreſt Laws	0	5	0
Nelſons Reports in Chancery	0	3	6
Noys Rights o'th' Crown	0	2	0
Ld. Chief Juſtice *Egerton* againſt *Cooks* Reports	0	1	6
A Table to the Statutes	0	0	6
Diſcourſe on Treaſon and Bills of Attainder	0	1	6
Journals of the Houſe of Commons	0	3	0
Rules of Government, by Sr. *John Heywood*	0	1	0
Diſeaſes incident to Tradesmen	0	3	6
Advice to young Gentlemen	0	1	6
Du Pins Abbrev. of Church Hiſt. 4 Vols.	0	10	0
Bp. *Williams's* Sermons, *Boyles* Lecture	0	5	0
Dr. *Tillys* Sermons	0	5	0
——— his Devotions	0	2	0
Mr. *Fidde's* Body of Divinity Vol. 1.	1	5	0
——— on the Sacrament	0	1	0
Dean Gardiner on the Beatitudes	0	6	0
——— Tranſlation of Rapin de Hortis	0	3	6
Dr. *Goddards* Six Sermons	0	1	0
Mr. *Lambs* Abridgment of *Biſhop Pearſon* on the Creed	0	2	6
Timothy and *Philatheus* 3 Vols.	0	15	0
Eſſay on Private Judgment	0	3	0
Seneca's Morals 11*th* Edit.	0	5	0
Plato's Immortality of the Soul	0	1	0
Thorp's Aſſize Sermon	0	0	4
Laurence's Aſſize Sermon	0	0	4
Sermon at the Funeral of a Day Labourer	0	0	4
Bryar's Catechiſm	0	0	6
——— Prayers and Meditations	0	0	3
Trapp on the Lord's Prayer	0	1	0

Peck

Books Printed for *Bernard Lintot*.

Peck on the Creation	0	1	0
Stevens's Sermon againſt Popery	0	0	4
Meſech and *Kedar*, v. Trapp	0	0	4
Jackſons Aſſize Sermon	0	0	4
Dr. *Goddard's* Sermon on Cenſure	0	0	4
——— on Gods Mercies	0	0	4
Luſhington's Sermon	0	0	4
Dibbons's Sermon in *Holland*	0	0	4
Dubourdieu's Sermon	0	0	4
Chillingworths Judgment	0	0	4
Divinity and Law reconcil'd	0	1	0
State of *Trinity College* in *Cambridge*	0	0	4
Sentences of *Ali* by the Rev. Mr *Ockley*	0	0	6
Lambs Sermons, each	0	0	4
Toland's Letter againſt *Popery*	0	0	6
——— Letters to *Serena*	0	0	6
——— Anglia Libera	0	3	6
——— Art of Governing by Partys	0	3	0
——— Vindicius Liberus	0	2	6
——— Art of Reſtoring	0	0	6
——— General *Monks* Letter	0	1	0
——— Reaſons for Naturalizing the *Jews*	0	1	0
——— Grand Myſtery laid open	0	0	6
——— *Amyntor*	0	2	6
A Treatiſe on the Small Pox	0	1	0
Recruiting Officer, a Comedy 5 Edit.	0	1	0
Beaux Stratagem, a Comedy 5 Edit.	0	1	0
Buſy Body 2 Edit.	0	1	0
Quaker of *Deale* 2 Edit.	0	1	0
Perkin Warbeck 2 Edit.	0	1	0
Phædra and *Hippolitus*	0	1	6
By Mr. *Cibber*. *Venus & Adonis*, a Maſque	0	0	6
Myrtillo, a Maſque	0	0	6
Loves Laſt Shift	0	1	0
Ladys Laſt Stake	0	1	6
Double Gallant	0	1	6
Perrolla and *Izzadora*	0	1	6
Comical Lover	0	1	6
The Non-juror	0	1	6